Friday, August 17, 2007 ★★★ 15 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 250 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

Smuggled luxury cars smashed

By Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon
and Michael Lim Ubac

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—THREE backhoes hummed to life at 1:45 p.m. yesterday, chugging their way toward 18 smuggled cars lined up at the Naval Supply Depot (NSD) here.

In just 15 minutes, the cars were turned into a pile of scrap as the metal teeth of the wrecking machines crushed them in an unprecedented move, televised nationwide, that

SMUGGLED/A18

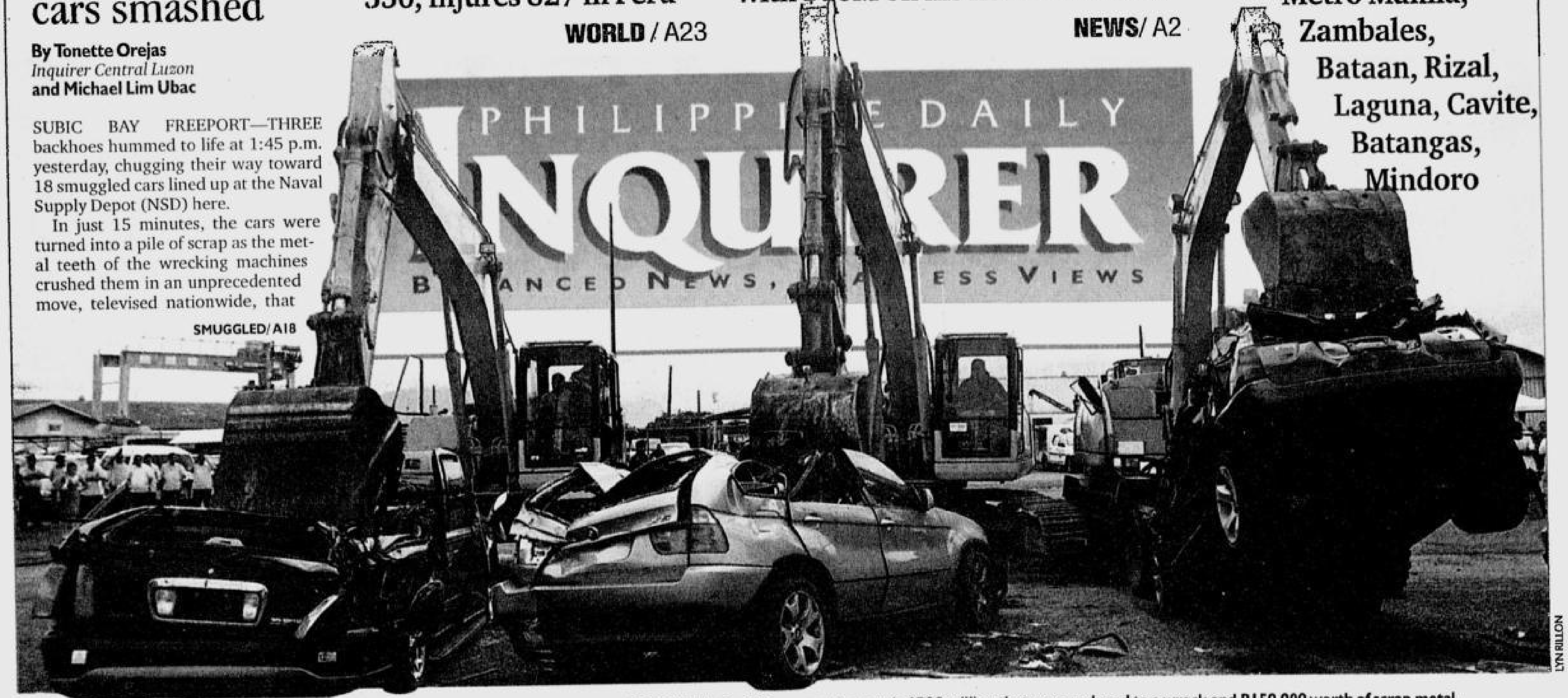
7.9 magnitude quake kills 330, injures 827 in Peru

WORLD / A23

Indon bomb maker Dulmatin with $10M on his head wounded

NEWS/ A2

Classes in all levels suspended today in Metro Manila, Zambales, Bataan, Rizal, Laguna, Cavite, Batangas, Mindoro

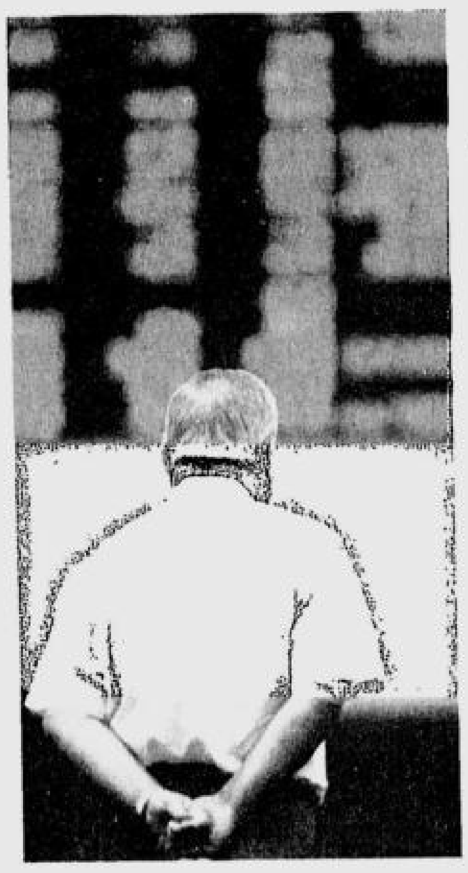


LYN RILLON

CRACKDOWN ON SMUGGLING, LITERALLY: Backhoes crush a Lincoln Navigator and 2 BMW X5, 3 of 18 cars worth a total of P30 million that were reduced to a wreck and P150,000 worth of scrap metal.

RP stocks plunge 6%

5 days of sell-off wipe out all gains since January



KEEPING HIS FINGERS CROSSED, a trader keeps an eye on the board of the stock exchange in Makati. The uncertainty lingers through Southeast Asia after Wall Street tumbled on renewed investor concerns over global credit markets. REUTERS

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

SPOOKED BY MASSIVE SELL-offs in Asian and the US markets, Philippine share prices tumbled yesterday to their lowest level in more than seven months, erasing all the gains for the year.

"People are selling their stocks as if they don't have value at all. Where it's going to stop, nobody knows," Nestor Aguila of DA Market Securities said.

Amid the sell-off, the peso further weakened to 46.43 to the US dollar from Wednesday's 46.23. *(See story on Page B1.)*

The 29-company Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) fell sharply for the fifth consecutive day, shedding yesterday 188.03 points or 6 percent to 2,942.31, the blue-chip index's lowest finish since Jan. 11 and its second sharpest fall this year.

The index has dropped 9.8 percent the past two days.

In terms of market capitalization, or the value of stocks at current prices, companies have lost a total of P1.09 trillion since the market peaked on July 5.

Foreign investors, who make up about 60 to 75 percent of total volume in the stock market, were net sellers.

Analysts said markets continued to be rattled by the US subprime mortgage scare, and tortured by fears of how vast the exposure of global financial institutions may be in the subprime mortgage sector, which supplies home loans to people with poor credit histories.

The market's biggest one-day point drop this year was on Feb. 8 when it

RP STOCKS/ A8

Panic grips stock markets across globe

LONDON—GLOBAL STOCKS TUMBLED again on Thursday, with a brutal round of losses in Asia and Europe as investors took flight on fears of a fallout from the US housing market crisis.

Traders worried about a global credit squeeze as more banks and investment funds around the world revealed their exposure to the slumping US subprime or high-risk home loan sector, analysts said.

From London to Tokyo, Shanghai to Mumbai and Hong Kong to Sydney, weary traders' screens were awash in red again as fears over US housing continued to buffet stock markets.

Some Asian bourses endured steep falls of more than 5 percent. Markets buckled under a wave of selling as the growing fallout from turmoil in US credit markets prompted investors to flee to safe havens such as bonds.

The crisis stems from the US housing market, which after years of booming house prices and cheap credit is now in reverse, with loans becoming more ex-

PANIC GRIPS/ A8

Expect rains even as 'Egay' skirts country

By TJ Burgonio, Tarra Quismundo and Inquirer Southern Luzon

MOST PARTS OF METRO MANILA, which suffered flash floods on Wednesday due to heavy rainfall induced by Typhoon "Egay," experienced only patches of rain yesterday, but the metropolis, west Luzon and the Visayas should brace for the surge of the southwest monsoon today, according to weather forecasters.

In some areas, rain did not fall at all, even as Egay picked up strength over the Pacific Ocean about 500 kilometers east of northern Luzon.

"While we experienced only patches of rain, the threat of a southwest monsoon surge still remains now that it (Egay) has accelerated," weather fore-

EXPECT/ A17

BASILAN DEBACLE

General: Politico key to Marine ambush

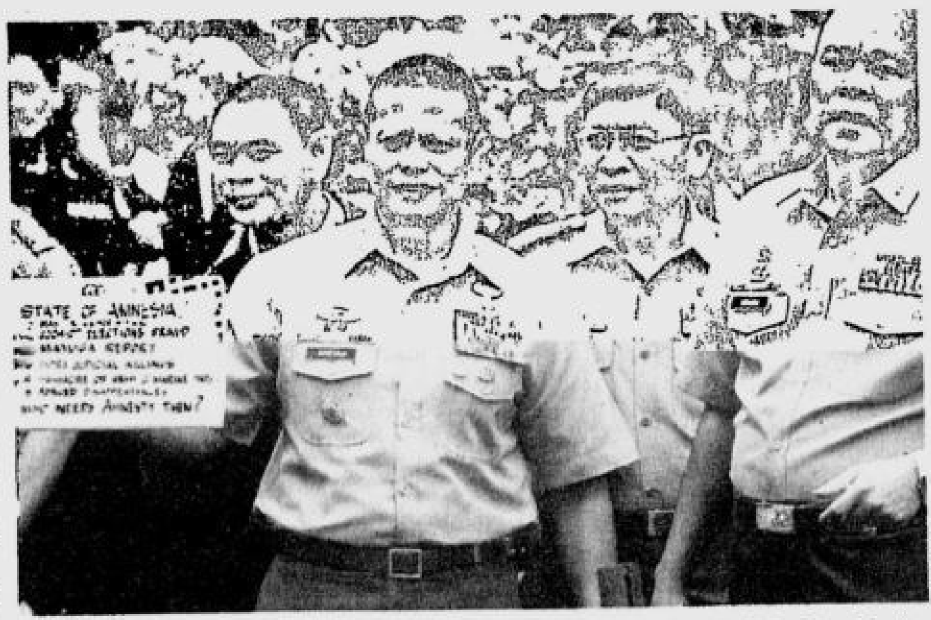
By Christian V. Esguerra

YET ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE ON THE ongoing conflict in Mindanao has been raised by a ranking military official—that politicians in Basilan were using the Armed Forces of the Philippines for their own ends against the Abu Sayyaf.

The official, a general who had directed ground operations in the troubled province for many years, warned against a single offensive tack against the terror group, saying the AFP should look into the possible involvement of a key provincial figure in the July 10 ambush of a Marine company that was looking for kidnapped Italian priest Giancarlo Bossi.

"Nothing happens in Basilan without this politician's hand," said the general who asked not to be named for lack of authority to speak on the matter.

GENERAL/ A17



ERIK ARAZAS

WHO NEEDS AMNESTY? Not (from right) Maj. Gen. Renato Miranda, Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim and Col. Ariel Querubin, now on trial for the February 2006 coup try. At a hearing at Camp Capinpin in Tanay on Thursday their message is down pat in black and white.

Rosales for peace talks; Velarde backs offensive

By Nikko Dizon, Juliet Labog-Javellana, Christine O. Avendaño and Julie Alipala

LEADERS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH are divided on the issue of the ongoing conflict between government and rebel troops in the South, even as the military is preparing to strike at the Abu Sayyaf and "lawless elements" in Sulu and Basilan without fear of engaging its allies in the Moro National Liberation Front and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales said on Wednesday that returning to the negotiation table and addressing the real issues in Mindanao could resolve the conflict. But El Shaddai leader Bro. Mariano Velarde, while backing the peace talks, yesterday said the military offensive was a justified reaction to the killing

ROSALES / A17

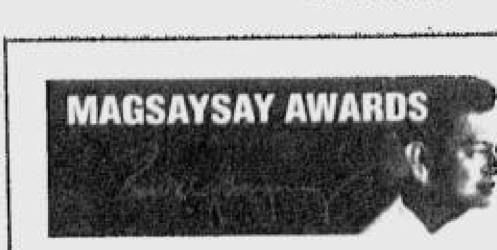
DAPAT LANG! DI NAMAN KANILA YUN!

No more Diosdado, Eva Macapagal blvds. if House bill passes

By Norman Bordadora

IF THE MILITANT BLOC IN THE House of Representatives had its way, there'd no longer be any public infrastructure named after the late President Diosdado Macapagal until his daugh-

NO MORE/ A18



Purpose-driven pastor in kingdom of the blind

By Araceli Lorayes

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF SUFFERing? What is its purpose?

From the dawn of mankind, this question has resonated in the anguished hearts of philosophers, princes and peasants alike. No one is spared, and each one must work out the answer to this question alone.

Lucky are those with an ethical and spiritual framework that supports the search for meaning, but desolate are those who exist in a system that views their suffering as justified punishment or condemns them as outcasts.

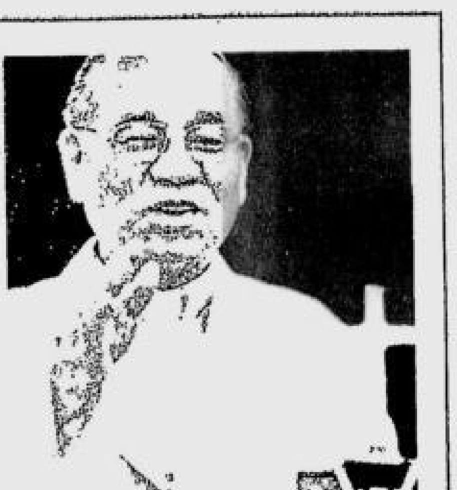
Kim Sun-tae, 2007 Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Public Service, has known the desolation of rejection and despair as well as the transcendence of hope and redemption.

From the crucible of adversity, he forged not just a will to live but a mission to extend himself in selfless, Christian service to the visually disabled.

Born in 1940, Kim was an only son who basked in the love, attention and material comforts of a prosperous family. But at the age of 10, in one horror-filled day, his sunny existence collapsed.

In the pre-dawn darkness of Sunday, June 25, 1950, North Korean People's Army (NKPA) troops numbering over 100,000 and backed by tanks and aircraft crossed the 38th parallel, the border between North and South Korea. Its destination—Seoul, the capital of South

PURPOSE-DRIVEN/ A8



KIM SUN-TAE for public service: Love is blind. It brings hope, light to life.

Second
FRONTPAGE

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(All in exact order)

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Batanes group of islands will have stormy weather while Cagayan including Babuyan Islands, the provinces of Isabela, and Catanduanes will experience rains and gusty winds and the coastal waters along these areas will be rough to very rough. Western Visayas and the rest of Luzon will have occasional rains while the rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

Metro Manila	Occasional Rains	**Iloilo/Bacolod**	Occasional Rains
Baguio	Occasional Rains	**Roxas**	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Gusty Winds	**Cebu**	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Occasional Rains	**Tacloban**	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Occasional Rains	**Gen. Santos**	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Occasional Rains	**Zamboanga**	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Occasional Rains	**Cagayan de Oro**	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Occasional Rains	**Davao**	Partly Cloudy

COMPILED BY RHEA BLANCAS, PDI RESEARCH/08/16/07 SOURCE PAGASA

Indon terror suspect wounded

By Christine O. Avendaño

ONE OF THE TWO wanted Jemaah Islamiyah bomb-makers hiding out in the country was believed wounded in an encounter between government forces and the Abu Sayyaf group (ASG) in Sulu last week.

Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. said yesterday the military was checking reports Dulmatin, an Indonesian who goes by one name, was wounded during an encounter on Aug. 9 in Maimbung town in which 15 soldiers were killed.

It was in the same encounter that the military earlier said Abu Sayyaf leader Umbra Jumbail, alias Dr. Abu Pula, was wounded.

Good development

Actually, the Abu Sayyaf suffered "heavy casualties" in those encounters, Esperon said.

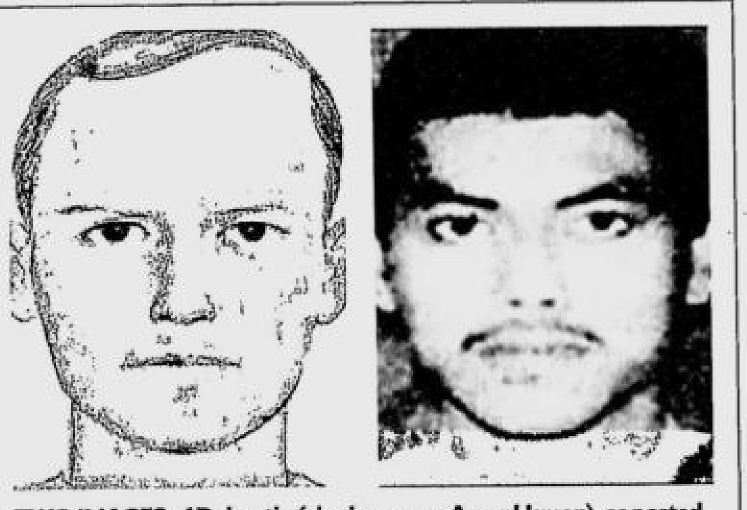
The wounding of Dulmatin and Pula was a good development, he added, saying it gave the military the opportunity to step up its pursuit of the ASG and JI.

Dulmatin and another Indonesian JI member, Umar Patek, are wanted in the 2002 Bali bombings that killed 202 people, mostly Australian tourists. They have been given refuge by the Abu Sayyaf since then and have been training the homegrown terror group's members in bomb-making and other violent acts.

Highest count

"This is the time to pursue [them]. There should be no letup," Esperon told reporters after the awarding ceremony for 34 soldiers killed or wounded in action since 2005 at Camp Aguinaldo yesterday.

The military renewed its offensive against the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu last week, encountering the group of Pula and ASG leaders Radulan Sahiron and Albader Parad, as well as Dulmatin and Patek, whom officials said had all linked up in the province.



TWO IMAGES of Dulmatin (also known as Amar Usman), as posted in the Rewards for Justice website of the United States Department of State. The website says Dulmatin, an electronics specialist with training in al-Qa'ida camps in Afghanistan, is a senior figure in the Jemaah Islamiyah terrorist organization. He is believed to have been one of the masterminds behind the 2002 bombings in Bali, Indonesia, which killed 202 people, including seven Americans. Dulmatin is a mid to late 30's, Javanese Arabic man.

Since the renewed offensive on Aug. 7-9, the military has lost 27 soldiers, 26 of them in two encounters on Aug. 9 alone—its highest single day fatality count in recent history.

Esperon said the reports of Dulmatin having been wounded had come from "accounts of troops operating in the area" as well as civilians "who are now coming (out) more often in the matter of giving reports to us."

"We have a report on Doctor Abu, we have a report on Dulmatin (being wounded on Aug. 9)," Esperon said.

"But we are not saying this has been confirmed. Remember (ASG leader) Khadafy Janjalani? He was reported to have been wounded (in September 2006) but we were able to confirm (his death) in January 2007," he said.

Run and hide

If anything, the wounding of Dulmatin and Pula should slow the ASG down, Esperon said.

"You could just imagine if you had wounded companions, your tendency would be not to engage in operations but simply to hide," he said.

Asked if this was the reason there had been no clashes with the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu since Aug. 9, "It could be, it could be," he said.

Washington has offered a $10-million (P460 million) reward for Dulmatin's capture and $1 million (P46 million) for Patek. A $100,000 (P4.6 million) reward has also been offered by the US for the capture or killing of Pula.

Esperon said during the same interview the military was prepared to strike at the ASG and other lawless elements in Sulu and Basilan without fear of having a misencounter with its allies in the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

He said this was because the military had enlisted the help of both groups in isolating the Abu Sayyaf in the two provinces by delineating their respective areas of operation.

"Now the battle lines are drawn," Esperon said.

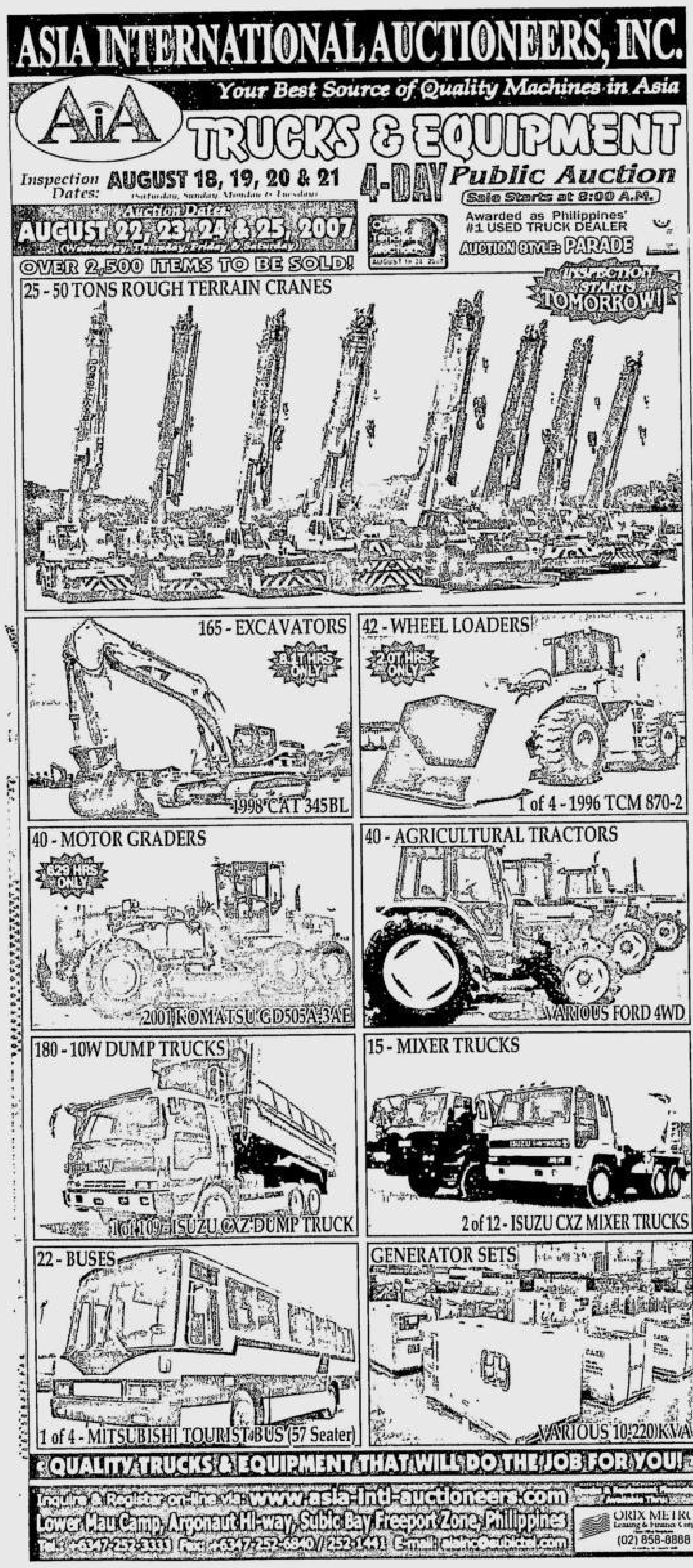
He said Army chief Lt. Gen. Romeo Tolentino was arranging "coordination points" with MNLF leaders.

"So the MNLF will be in one place. That means if the MNLF is there, those outside the area are lawless elements or Abu Sayyaf," Esperon said.

He said the designated areas in Sulu had yet to be discussed and would be finalized by Aug. 18.

"So if we have those mechanisms on the ground, it would be easier to conduct operations," Esperon said.

He, however, declined to identify the areas designated for the MNLF, with whom the government signed a peace accord in 1996. *With an AP report*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Gov't asked: What's the game plan in Sulu?

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE ARROYO ADMINISTRATION should fully assess its game plan for winning the war against secessionist and terrorist groups in Mindanao before pouring more warm bodies into the conflict.

"What is the end-game conceived by the government? In the event that you cannot attain that endgame and you go to a foolish game to maintain the integrity and protect the people of this country, what are your chances of winning or being defeated," Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile wanted to know during the weekly Kapihan sa Senado news forum yesterday.

President Macapagal-Arroyo is facing mounting pressure to amend her order to the military to escalate the level of violence in Basilan and Sulu in response to the deadly ambuscades perpetrated by the Abu Sayyaf and rogue secessionist elements against government troops.

The widows and other relatives of the 14 Marines slain on Basilan in the first of the ambushes had appealed to Ms Arroyo to stop sending fresh troops to Mindanao, while some senators had questioned the government's capability to carry out an all-out war against the guerrillas.

'Protracted talks'

"These are the things that must be addressed to the security planners of the country: What is your level of preparation in terms of manpower, logistics, communication, transport, of protecting the population from the possible overflow of the conflict, and in maintaining law and order while addressing the more pressing problem of conflict in Mindanao," Enrile said.

Aside from the seeming lack of a plan, Enrile slammed the way the government had allowed the peace talks with the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front to drag on.

Enrile blamed the "protracted negotiations" for the build-up in forces and weaponry by the rebels.

"The longer the negotiations are prolonged, the weaker the position of the government becomes. There must be a limit to this. It cannot be an open-ended negotiation, we are just postponing the problem," said Enrile. "I am not advocating a bloodbath in this country, but the government must be the government."

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said what the government needed was a "comprehensive solution" to the Mindanao problem rather than "superficial solutions."

Rising from the ashes

"I told the President, you know we can crush the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu today. We can kill all the renegades who are fighting the government. But even if we do that, unless we have a comprehensive solution, the problem of insurgency in the south, like the Phoenix, will rise from the ashes," Pimentel said.

Both Pimentel and Enrile advocated a federal system of government that would give the people of Mindanao a higher level of autonomy, preserve their cultural identity and allow them to live their lives according to their religion.

"There is no other way because, in their vocabulary, if their identity as Muslim people is not respected, then they are no longer a Muslim people; therefore, they have no place in the scheme of things in the country," Pimentel said.

Senate to probe presence of US soldiers in Sulu

THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS committee has scheduled an inquiry into the presence of United States soldiers in Sulu in the midst of Armed Forces operations against Muslim extremists.

"We need to examine the extent of the participation of US troops in the activities of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in Sulu to find out if there has been a violation of the law prohibiting US forces from engaging in combat operations in Philippine territory," said committee chair Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago.

"We need to find out whether the activities of the US troops in Sulu constitute unlawful intervention," Santiago said, adding that intervention was not limited to the use of force.

Santiago also chairs the legislative oversight body on the Visiting Forces Agreement, which governs the conduct of visiting US forces during joint operations with the Philippine military.

Non-combatants

Under the Visiting Forces Agreement, visiting US troops are banned from actual combat, but both governments say they provide training and intelligence to Filipino troops going after the Abu Sayyaf extremist group.

Concern has risen in the Senate and the House over the involvement of US troops in combat operations in Sulu after heavily armed US Special Forces were photographed by an Agence France Presse photographer last Tuesday leading a Philippine military convoy in Sulu.

Military officials claimed the US soldiers were there to do a "site survey" for next year's scheduled Balikatan, as the joint war exercises are called.

The US Embassy has denied any direct involvement in the hunt for the Abu Sayyaf saying its Special Forces troops were providing intelligence and training.

A US unit has been stationed in southern Mindanao since 2002 and is involved in what the military calls "unconventional warfare." At any one time, between 100 to 500 US Special Forces troops are deployed in Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago, including Jolo, according to intelligence sources quoted by AFP. *Dona Pazzibugan, with AFP*

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It would seem like an impossible feat to "recreate" the skin you once had in your younger days if you are already pushing your 30's, 40's or 50's. Like it or not, the years take away the natural beauty of skin's youth - permanently. And while protection early on will do wonders for the skin in the long run (because a little sunblock never hurt anyone), there are just some things that inevitably come with the natural process of aging.

You wake up one day to suddenly find aging signs like wrinkles, blemishes, sun spots, rosacea, hyperpigmentation and blotchiness. Your skin - once firm and dewy, is now dull, sagging and in dire need of moisture. This is because as we age, the rate of the skin's cell renewal decreases, making the cells sticky and not shed as easily as it used to. The skin also becomes thinner and more susceptible to environmental damage.

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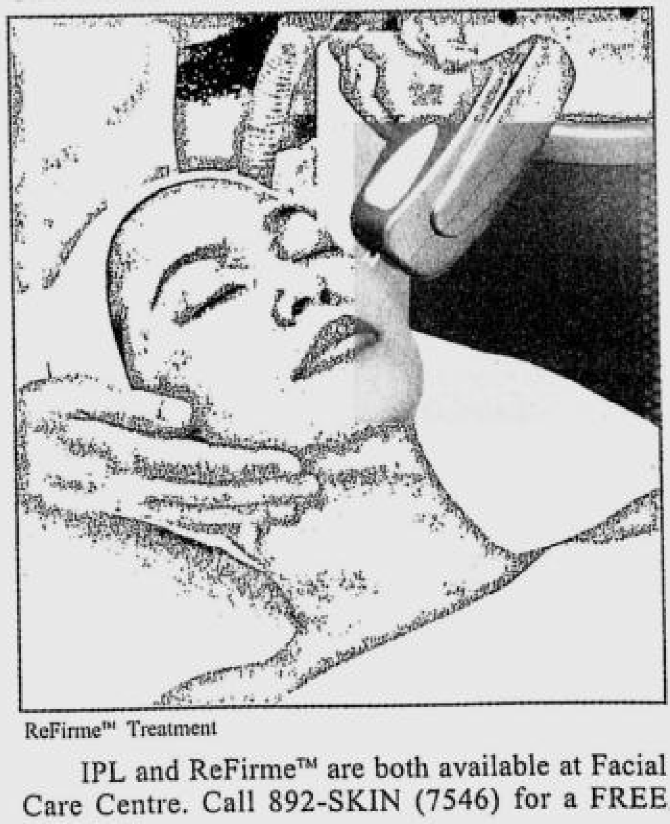
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GMA urges docs to back low-priced drugs

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo yesterday urged doctors to support the government's campaign to reduce the price of medicines by prescribing generic drugs to their patients.

Ms Arroyo made the call in a speech at the centennial celebration of the Philippine General Hospital in Malacañang.

The President paid tribute to the hospital by giving P100 million towards a PGH rehabilitation fund to modernize the hospital, "P1 million for every year of service to the people."

She promised to give the hospital P100 million every year up to the end of her term in 2010.

Ms Arroyo said that while more than 90 percent of all medicines are off-patent and can be manufactured locally, 90 percent of medicines sold in the market are branded and much more expensive than the generic ones.

Cartel

"What's the explanation? A cartel with 70 percent market share controls the marketing channels, thus the typical consumer or the typical patient is unaware that doctors can ... prescribe cheaper generics available in the market," Ms Arroyo said.

The President said local pharmaceutical companies have been manufacturing the same high-quality medicines that are priced 70 percent lower than branded medicines.

She said the Philippine International Trading Corp. was making headway in the campaign to reduce drugs prices through parallel importation of medicines which it sells in Botika ng Bayan, government hospitals and National Food Authority outlets nationwide.

Prescribe generics

"The government's efforts to reduce the cost of medicines is a success story in the making. But we need your [the doctors'] support by prescribing generics to your patients," Ms Arroyo said.

She also urged Congress to pass the Cheaper Medicines Act, a bill which she certified as urgent but which the previous Congress did not approve.

"Please support that bill as well," she said.

The President gave tribute to the PGH which is celebrating 100 years of existence.

Ms Arroyo said the PGH was one of three Philippine hospitals chosen by Time Magazine in a recent survey of the best hospitals in Asia.

"The P100 million PGH rehabilitation fund is our way of saying a hundred million thanks to the grand old dame of public hospitals," she said.

PGH Director Dr. Carmelo Alfiler said the President gave P100 million to the hospital last year which was used to buy modern medical equipment and to renovate the hospital's pay block.

Ms Arroyo handed Alfiler a P50 million check from the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., and said another P50 million check from the lotto proceeds of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office was forthcoming.

"The amount will be for PGH modernization and acquisition of modern equipment so that those who suffer can afford a new lease on life," she said.

Ms Arroyo said she plans to put up kidney, lung and heart centers in four key regions—Cebu, Davao, Cagayan de Oro and Albay.

For Mike and Mikey

"I am glad that as part of your future plans, you will be institutionalizing networking with other hospitals in the country. That's a good idea because you will be replicating the lung, heart and kidney centers in other cities so that any Mike, not only my Mike and my Mikey, can get better care," she said.

Ms Arroyo was referring to her husband Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, who underwent open heart surgery last April, and their eldest son, Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo, who suffered nephrotic syndrome when he was 12.

Nephrotic syndrome—or dropsy in layman's terms—is a common kidney disorder afflicting children in which protein is leaked from the blood to the urine.

The President said Alfiler correctly diagnosed Mikey's disease and treated him for five years until he was 17. She recalled that relatives were concerned that the massive doses of the steroid that was used to treat Mikey would stunt his growth.

"Nonetheless, thank God, and through Dr. Alfiler's expert treatment, he got well and grew enough to be an adult. So thank you very much for saving my son's life and now thank you for serving our country through your leadership of the PGH," the President said.

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Lawyer says SC ruling on NHA can lead to corruption

By Leila B. Salaverria

FORMER SOLICITOR GENERAL Francisco Chavez yesterday warned that the Supreme Court's decision allowing the National Housing Authority to sell "patrimonial lands" without bidding would open more chances for corruption.

Chavez also contested the tribunal's decision upholding the validity of the 1993 Joint Venture Agreement between the NHA and R-II Builders Inc., headed by Reghis Romero. The agreement allowed the developer to turn the Smokey Mountain dumpsite into a low-cost housing and commercial area.

In its decision, the high court said that the NHA could transfer the land parcels in the site without public bidding.

Chavez said he would appeal the decision. "What the Supreme Court did with its decision saying the NHA can sell lands without public bidding is equivalent to opening another door of corruption," he said.

He added that under government rules, even typewriters could not be sold without public bidding.

He also said the high court's decision as worded stated that the powers of NHA were implied.

"The Supreme Court was proceeding on assumptions, inferences and deductions," he said, in expressing the hope the high court would revisit and reconsider its decision.

Chavez also contested the high court's statement that he failed to question the project when he was solicitor general.

He said that he had already left government before President Corazon Aquino's proclamation that the land be reclaimed for the Smokey Mountain project took effect.

Besides, he said, he believed he could not question the directive of a President who had appointed him to his position. "It's absurd for the solicitor general to question the decision made by the President."

He also said that when the proclamation was issued, the said lands were still under water and could not be sold.

In its Aug. 15 decision, the high court said the Public Estates Authority did not have the exclusive power to reclaim land as Chavez had claimed.

It also said various laws, including the NHA's charter, upheld the NHA's power to reclaim land. It said the NHA had the "implied power" to reclaim land because this was necessary for it to accomplish its function of implementing an urban land reform and housing program.

The high court also said the lands the NHA transferred to RBI were not lands of public domain, which had to be sold through public bidding. Hence, the NHA could transfer the said lands to the RBI without public bidding.

Fishing boat with 30 aboard may be lost

THE PHILIPPINE COAST Guard is verifying reports that a fishing vessel with 30 people on board has been missing for 20 days in the South China Sea.

The PCG has sent out a notice to mariners to be on the lookout for the red-and-white Surigen after receiving information that the vessel went on a fishing trip off Palawan in late July and has not been seen since, said PCG spokesperson Lt. Armand Balilo.

Balilo said it was possible the boat could have sought shelter from the rough seas.

He also reported that the passengers of a yacht from Hong Kong have been rescued in Mariveles, Bataan by the PCG.

The yacht arrived in Subic from Hong Kong last Monday. From Subic, it set sail for Manila and was reported missing on Wednesday.

Balilo said the yacht was battered by big waves and ran aground in Mariveles.

Rescued from the yacht were Capt. Enrico Taruc, 40; Jose Angeles, 57; and chief engineer Carlos Fernando, 53.

In Batangas, 155 passengers of the Supercat 23 ferry were rescued on Wednesday night.

The ferry ran aground late Wednesday when it encountered rough seas while on its way to Calapan, Oriental Mindoro.

The ferry's passengers were transferred to other vessels and taken to a Batangas port, said Balilo.

The PCG has not received reports of any injuries or fatalities. *Leila B. Salaverria*

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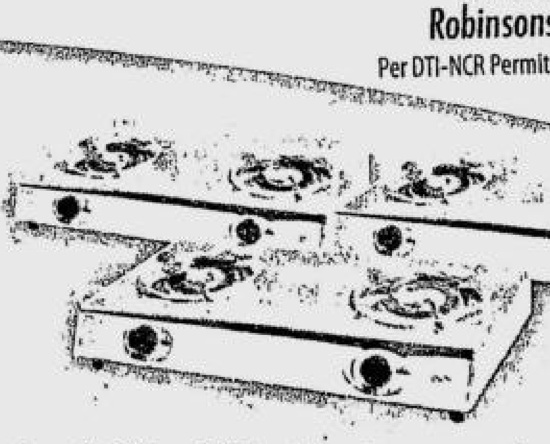

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PHILIPPINE MARKETING EXCELLENCE AWARD AS MOST OUTSTANDING RESIDENTIAL PROJECT 2006

By Tina G. Santos

OFFICERS OF THE Performance Foreign Exchange Corp. (Performance Forex), whose offices were raided by the National Bureau of Investigation last week, insist that their company has no connection with the Performance Investment Products Corp. (PIPC), whose Singaporean owner allegedly disappeared with at least $250 million of investors' money.

Roberto Borromeo, Performance Forex executive director, appeared at the NBI yesterday, along with several of the firm's directors, in response to a subpoena.

Although Michael Liew, the missing Singaporean owner of PIPC, was a one-time owner of Performance Forex, Borromeo said the two companies were not connected.

"We have no communication with him [Liew] since he sold his shares of stocks to another Singaporean businessman in 2004," said Borromeo.

He said the company was now being managed "100 percent by Filipinos."

NBI raid

Borromeo said they are ready to submit the necessary documents to prove their claim.

On Aug. 8, the NBI raided the offices of Performance Forex at the mezzanine floor of the Enterprise Building on Paseo de Roxas in Makati following complaints that it was engaged in illegal foreign exchange trading.

It confiscated several pieces of equipment, including computers, TV monitors, a photocopier a several documents related to the firm's operations.

The NBI said the raid was prompted by complaints from several investors who alleged that they were victimized by an investment scam allegedly perpetrated by the firm.

The NBI said at least 12 investors have filed complaints against Performance Forex.

Among the complainants is a former top official of the Bureau of Immigration who reportedly invested about $500,000.

Borromeo, however, insisted that Performance Forex was not engaged in illegal activities.

'Just brokers'

"They [the investors] only used our facilities, and they trade on their own. We only act as brokers," he said.

"We explain to them the risks of the business," he said, advising investors that "there are risks, no guarantees, no promises."

The NBI said Performance Forex, which reportedly started operating in 1998, has more than 3,000 investors, including businessmen, professionals and overseas Filipino workers.

It said the firm promised investors a monthly interest of from 7 to 8 percent.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, August 17, 2007
19th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:	Jos 24:1-13
Gospel:	Matthew 19:3-12

Some Pharisees approached Jesus. They wanted to test him and asked, "Is a man allowed to divorce his wife for any reason he wants?"

Jesus replied, "Have you not read that in the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and he said: Man has now to leave father and mother, and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one body? So they are no longer two but one body; let no one separate what God has joined."

They asked him, "Then, why did Moses command us to write a bill of dismissal in order to divorce?" Jesus replied, "Moses knew your stubborn heart, so he allowed you to divorce your wives, but it was not so in the beginning. Therefore I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, unless it be for concubinage, and marries another, commits adultery."

The disciples said, "If that is the condition of a married man, it is better not to marry." Jesus said to them, "Not everybody can accept what you have just said, but only those who have received this gift. Some are born incapable of marriage. Some have been made that way by others. But there are some who have given up the possibility of marriage for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who can accept it, accept it."

Commentary

Joshua summons the entire people and retells the story of their promises, of deliverance and God's choice of them as his people. They must remember their past and especially keep in mind what God does for them always, no matter how they have been towards God. They have been given a land that belonged to others, land and crops that they did not till and produce that they had no hand in planting or harvesting. They deserve none of this; it is all the bounty of their God.

Jesus teaches about the hardness of peoples' hearts and that Moses changed the law of marriage so that men could divorce their wives. But just because it was changed does not mean it was the original intention of God. Men and women were meant to live as one. Men are not to divorce their wives and women are not to divorce their husbands—this is the prophetic teaching of Jesus/God. We must begin here and face unfaithfulness and failure. We are not to make excuses, change the law, and harden our hearts because we have sinned.

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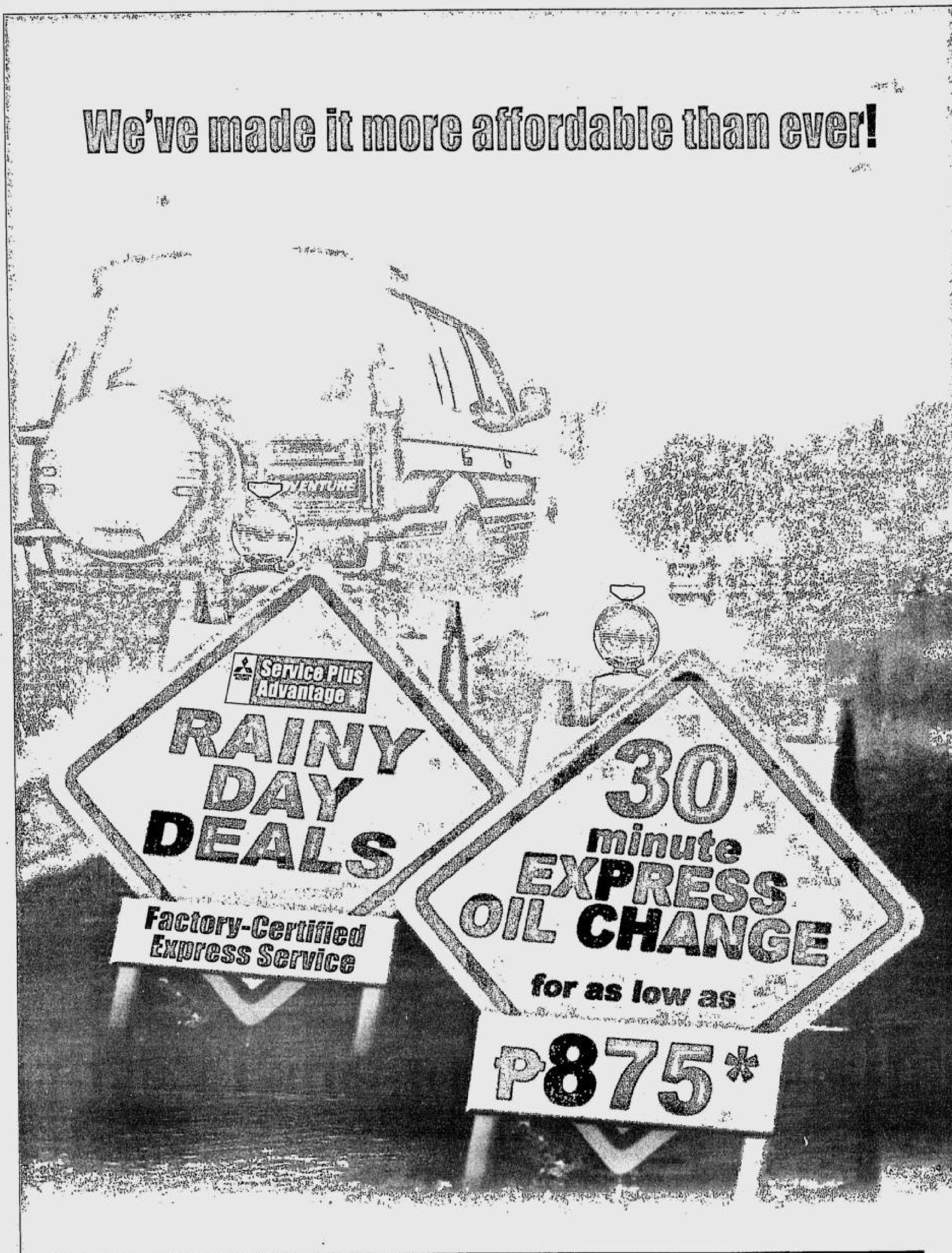
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	GLS/GSR/MX	'97-'03		657.00
Galant	Super Saloon	'93-'03	1,025.00	625.00
	VR			885.00
Adventure	Gas	'97-'03		657.00
	Diesel		1,590.00	300.00
L-300	Diesel	'92-'03		
L-200		'91-'03		
Strada		'96-'03		

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SENATE PRESIDENT MANUEL VILLAR urged the Department of Trade and Industry and the National Telecommunications Commission to make it easier for the masses to change their defective batteries with Nokia.

Villar made the appeal after getting numerous complaints from consumers about the tedious process of replacing the defective BL-5C batteries, some of which were found to be overheating while being charged.

Villar said he doubts whether ordinary Filipinos could have their defective batteries replaced by going though the mandatory encoding process at the Nokia website and waiting for the replacement coming from its Finland headquarters.

Nokia has issued an advisory for BL-5C batteries manufactured between December 2005 and November 2006. The recall applies to 46 million out of 300 million BL-5C produced during the period. *Gil C. Cabacungan*

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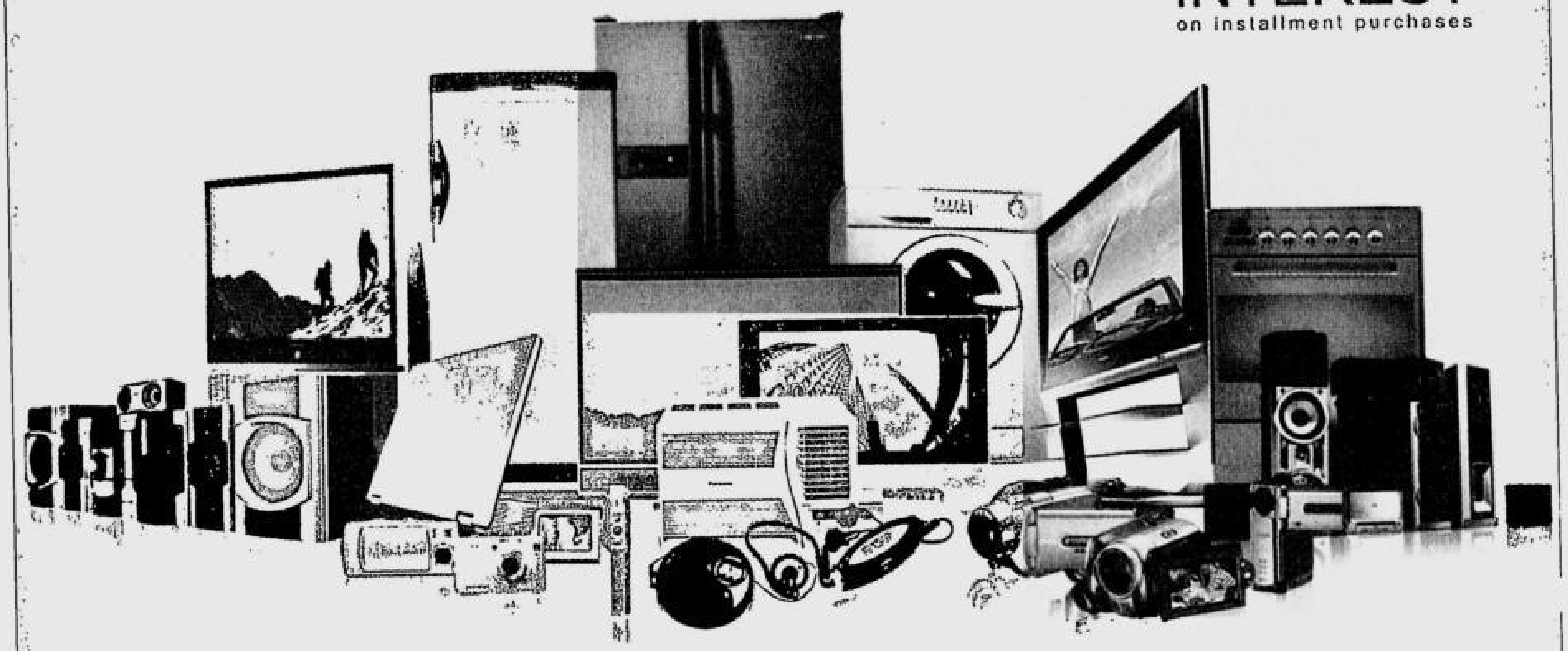

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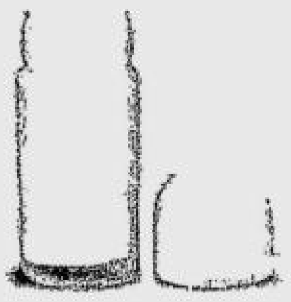

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RP stocks plunge 6 percent; gains wiped out

From page A1

skidded 7.9 percent following the plunge in the Shanghai stock market.

All sectors were in the red, with total peso trades hitting P4.98 billion. Losers outnumbered gainers 143 to 6, while 13 stocks were unchanged.

Panicky

"It appears to us that the market has thrown fundamentals out the window," said Francisco Liboro of PCCI Securities Brokers Corp.

"Panicky investors no longer appreciate value-laden issues that have dropped to bargain share prices while maintaining their profit growths," he said.

Total foreign selling reached P3.38 billion compared with P2.82 billion in foreign buying. The difference, or net selling, stood at P561 million.

However, the market's 443-point drop over the past five days has not fully convinced investors to jump in despite the cheap buys, analysts said.

"Everyone is waiting for the correction to happen and now they're getting cold feet. It's a typical market reaction. When you see a building falling in front of you, you won't try to catch the debris," said Edgar Bancod, head of research at ATR Kim Eng Securities.

All-time high

The stock market has wiped out its gains because it has dropped 40.23 points or 1.4 percent year-to-date, according to the PSE.

The stock market gained as much as 27 percent from January to July 5 when it hit an all-time high. Since then, the market has seen volatile trades.

The companies forming part of the PSEi index have shaved off P726.5 billion in market value.

"We're just following global trends, nothing has changed for us. Markets are still trying to figure out how big the damage is. No one knows the extent of exposure yet among financial institutions globally," Bancod said.

Outlook clear as mud

"The outlook right now is as clear as mud. But it's time to go stock-picking. Blue chips have come down significantly but brace yourselves for a lot of volatility," Bancod said.

Jerome Gonzalez, head of research at PhilEquity Management Inc., which handles P3 billion worth of assets, could not say if the market's three-year bull run was at an end.

"It's very difficult to differentiate between a bear market and a deep correction. But I think this is a correction. If we hit 2,500, I think it is still a correction. This correction is two to three weeks old. It will take more time for subprime problems to unravel," Gonzalez said.

Time to buy?

Wall Street has been hammered as a deepening credit crunch spooked the market, and led to unease about potential losses at financial firms and funds.

"If you are a fund like us, that is looking at a two- to three-year (investment) horizon, you should be buying right now because there are values out there. Stocks have come down 20 to 30 percent from the peak," Gonzalez said.

Allan Araullo, research head at Regina Capital Development Corp., said it was a case of "emotion taking over the global market."

Despite the concerns over the subprime mortgage, "the data show the US economy is still strong," he said. "It really depends on the US market. They have to calm down first."

Victims

Among yesterday's victims were PNOC Energy Development Corp., which fell 1.64 percent or 10 centavos to P6, and was the most traded stock.

SM Prime Holdings fell 5 percent to P9.50. Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., which is also traded on Wall Street, slid 7.9 percent or P195 to close at P2,270.

Last week, PLDT reported a 25-percent increase in its second quarter profit from a year ago.

Ayala Corp. retreated 3.5 percent to P417.50, extending Wednesday's 5.5-percent drop, even after the country's biggest conglomerate saw a 50 percent rise in its first-half result.

B shares of Manila Electric Co., the Philippines' largest power distributor by sales, fell 10.2 percent to P79. Meralco B shares have fallen 21 percent in the last five sessions. *With reports from AP and AFP*

Panic grips stock markets across globe due to US housing loans

From page A1

pensive and house prices falling.

This has caused high numbers of mortgage defaults as borrowers, particularly subprime borrowers—people who have a poor credit history—struggle to make their repayments.

Dozens of US mortgage lenders have been put out of business and major US and European banks have taken a hit.

The link between subprime borrowers and the turmoil in financial markets involves much financial wizardry that enabled banks and funds all over the world to make investments that are essentially bets on borrowers repaying their mortgages.

'Carnage' in Europe

Europe's main stock markets also plummeted on Thursday, with London and Paris shedding 3.0 percent. "It's carnage today," said Peter Dixon, a strategist at Commerzbank in London.

Heavy losses in Asia and Europe were sparked by yet another overnight slump in New York on lingering anxiety about the credit market, despite the US Federal Reserve's $7-billion cash infusion to support the financial system.

The US Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 1.29 percent to end at 12,859.19 points—the fifth straight closing loss and the first time since late April it closed below 13,000.

US stock index futures on Thursday indicate a further plunge for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite Index.

Australian home loan group RAMS sparked fresh jitters after it failed to roll over US$5 billion in debt due to worries over the US credit crunch, which also wreaked havoc on Asian currencies.

Biggest one-day fall

In a nerve-wracking day for investors, Seoul reeled from its biggest ever one-day plunge in terms of points, ending down 6.93 percent.

Tokyo's Nikkei-225 index fell below the key 16,000-point level for the first time since last November before clawing back to end down 1.99 percent. Hong Kong tumbled 3.3 percent, Singapore dived 3.7 percent and Mumbai plunged 4.48 percent.

Australian share prices plunged 5.0 percent before staging a powerful late rally to finish 1.3 percent lower. Elsewhere, Jakarta lost 6 percent, Bangkok dropped 3.0 percent, Shanghai ended down 2.14 percent, Taipei finished 4.56 percent lower, and Wellington shed 1.18 percent.

Market watchers said that confidence had drained out of the markets, so even though many stocks look cheap there is no obvious trigger on the horizon for a rebound.

Contagion effect

After heavy losses in Asia, London's FTSE 100 index of leading shares plunged by 2.99 percent in morning deals to 5,926.30 points—which was last seen in late September 2006. It later stood at 5,947.30 near the half-way stage.

The FTSE has fallen below the psychological 6,000-point barrier for the first time since early March.

In Paris, the CAC 40 slumped by 3.03 percent to 5,277.77 points, the lowest point so far in 2007, before pulling back to 5,305.13. Frankfurt's DAX 30 dived 2.38 percent to 7,268.56 points and the DJ Euro Stoxx 50 index of eurozone shares slid 2.44 percent to 4,081.06 points.

Elsewhere, Amsterdam, Madrid, Milan and Stockholm markets chalked up losses in excess of 2.0 percent.

"It has nothing to do with fundamentals, but a contagion effect of the poor end to the US market overnight and Asia," said Dixon of Commerzbank.

Investors unconvinced

World leaders on Thursday insisted that the US credit crunch would not cause an economic crisis but investors remained unconvinced.

US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson admitted that American growth would be hit but said the economy would weather the storm because it came "against a backdrop of a very healthy global economy with strong fundamentals."

French President Nicolas Sarkozy said he was confident the fallout from US credit markets would have no long-term effect on growth, while Australia's Prime Minister John Howard said the economy could withstand the shock.

But their words failed to convince stock markets which tumbled yet again, wiping tens of billions of dollars off share values in markets across the globe.

"There's a growing fear that the turmoil in the credit markets, along with rising investor fear, could start to undermine the global growth and strong company profits story, and the markets could be at the start of a negative spiral," said John Noonan, an analyst at Thomson IFR Markets.

Central banks across the world have since last week pumped tens of billions of dollars into the banking system, offering loans at lower rates to commercial banks to forestall a credit crunch that could damage economic growth.

The Bank of Japan on Thursday said it would inject a further US$3.4 billion into the system to calm frayed nerves.

France's Sarkozy called for the Group of Seven most industrialized nations to take steps to improve transparency in world markets. He noted that complex financial operations had helped boost the world economy but warned that the bearers of risk in these operations were often "very badly identified and this lack of knowledge is in itself a factor of instability."

But Sarkozy insisted that "these market movements will not lastingly affect the growth of our economies, which is strong."

US Treasury Secretary Paulson, for his part, said that fears over the US mortgage market "will extract a penalty on the growth rate" of the US economy.

But "the economy and the markets are strong enough to absorb the losses" without provoking a US recession, he told the Wall Street Journal. *AFP*

Purpose-driven pastor in kingdom of the blind

From page A1

Korea, only about 50 km south of the 38th parallel. Within three days, Seoul fell.

Ten days after the surprise attack, Kim went out of his parents' home after breakfast to play. When he returned a short while later, he found his home completely destroyed by bombs, and his parents missing. In the twinkling of an eye, he was transformed from a carefree child in a loving and comfortable home to a terrified, homeless orphan in a war zone. His descent into a living hell had started.

Blinded by explosion

With no close relatives in Seoul, he joined seven other orphans, begging and scavenging for food in the ravaged city. Foraging for fruit in a field one day, they chanced upon a mortar shell. While examining it, the shell exploded, immediately killing his companions and blinding Kim.

Blind and near starving, Kim nevertheless was able to make his way, despite many obstacles, to an aunt's house in the city of Yang-Ju. His arrival was most unwelcome. His relatives were very superstitious; they considered him a bringer of bad luck and, throughout the five months that he stayed with them, he was subjected to verbal abuse, harsh beatings and hard manual labor. As a result of one beating, his eardrum was damaged. He was hidden from neighbors and given little food.

A beggar in Seoul

Throughout his ordeal, Kim was sustained by his Christian faith that he learned in the Sunday School he had attended. Twice he attempted to take his own life, and twice a strange voice commanded him to endure, assuring him that he would survive.

Finally, in December of 1950, he overheard his relatives plotting to kill him. Falling on his knees, he prayed to God, promising that if God allowed him to live, he would be a great person and live his life for those who, like him, were blind. He escaped from his relatives' home and made his way to Seoul, where he became a beggar.

Acts of kindness

His existence was brightened by acts of kindness from compassionate Koreans and American soldiers, and recalling these kindly acts would revive his lagging spirit. Despite the horrors of being a child beggar during wartime, his faith never wavered; he would bring other child beggars to church, bribing them with food.

More than two years of his life were spent in this existence, during which he endured rotten food, illness and lacquer poisoning. Eventually the government started to round up child beggars and Kim was placed in an orphanage.

Determined to get an education, he chose an orphanage which would allow him to study and to attend church services. Although he was treated with kindness by some teachers, he still endured bullying by other students and other teachers. He learned Korean Braille, but having felt the calling to be a Christian pastor, he knew that he would have to attend regular schools to attain his goal.

Kim was accepted by the Soongsil High School, where he was the only blind pupil among three thousand students. Since there were no Braille textbooks, he relied on the help of kind classmates who read the books to him as well as what was on the blackboard.

By the time of his senior year, a military junta had taken over the government. Under the revised educational system of this administration, disabled persons were no longer allowed to enter college.

Heroic knife attack

Undaunted by his initial rejection by the Department of Education, Kim applied 32 times to enter college. On his 33rd attempt, he felt desperate, brought a knife to the Department of Education and charged at the head of the department. The ensuing newspaper attention made him a hero, and he was finally allowed to take the entrance exam at Soongsil University.

PASTOR KIM: He lives the reply of Jesus to his disciples when they asked Him: "Who had sinned, the man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?" To which Jesus answered: "None of them. He was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him."

His four years at the school were spent not only in pursuing a degree in philosophy, but also in training himself in spiritual discipline to prepare for a life of service and material poverty.

While at the seminary, he had determined that his ministry would be to the blind, and toward this end, started working with various institutions for the blind. While at the seminary also he met the woman he would eventually marry, Jung-Ja, who would be his invaluable companion throughout his ministry.

First church for blind

He graduated from Soongsil University in 1966; he subsequently obtained a master's degree in Divinity in 1969, and a doctorate in 1982. In 1972, together with the help of another pastor and a blind person, he established the United Church for the Blind, the first church to minister to blind people.

At first, services were held in a room of Chungmu Church, then in a dilapidated apartment. Eventually a church was built, and as the church and community grew, Korean Braille Bibles were published and distributed to churches in orphanages.

Being pastor of a fledgling church entailed many hardships, not only for Pastor Kim, but also for his wife and two daughters.

Money was lacking. He remembers with a pang his inability to provide them with warm clothes during winter, or simple pleasures like ice cream. His wife, however, was unflagging in her support and care, unhesitatingly quitting her better-paying job at one time to follow him in his pastoral assignment.

In 1973, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Korea established the blind Evangelical Missions within the Evangelical Department and invited Kim to be the director.

Under Kim's stewardship, not only were Bibles distributed, but scholarships for the blind were also established, for various disciplines as well as for those called to the ministry. Jobs were provided for students at institutions built for the blind.

From spiritual to medical

His responsibilities expanded. In 1972, Kim became the social welfare organization representative for the visually disabled and, from 1972 to 1976, the director of the Blind Evangelical Mission. He also became the director of the Asia Missions Conference for the Visually Disabled.

In 1977, his work for the blind expanded from spiritual ministry to the medical mission of restoring sight to the blind. Kim received a donation of $8,000 from a woman professor who asked that it be spent on an operation for restoring sight to a blind person. The operation funded by that donation was a success.

Encouraged, the Mission Association for the Blind embarked on more activities to enable more eye operations. The success of these operations generated widespread newspaper attention, and became known as the "Miracle of Siloam" after the Gospel narrative of the blind man cured by Jesus.

At one fund-raising concert sponsored by the Association of Siloam Mothers, the audience was moved by the accounts of blind persons whose sight had been restored by the operations. One of those in the audience was the CEO of a large corporation, who was inspired to discuss with Pastor Kim the possibility of setting up an eye hospital.

Donations flowed

Donations started to flow in; and with the help of the business community, Pastor Kim was able to inaugurate the Siloam hospital in 1986, the 100th anniversary of the introduction of Christianity to Korea.

From 1994 to the first half of 2004, the main hospital has provided more than 23,000 free consultations and almost 4,000 free operations.

In 1986, the Siloam Mobile Eye Hospital was established to help people living in the rural areas and remote islands. The mobile hospital has greatly expanded the scope of assistance of the Siloam hospital; from 1995 to 2005, a total of 119,032 free treatments and operations have been performed.

Missions to RP, China

The activities of the Siloam Eye Hospital are not limited to Korea. Medical missions have been sent to Bangladesh, China and the Philippines. In September 1999 the Siloam Eye Center was opened in Yang Ji, China, to provide medical care to the ethnic Koreans and native Chinese in that area.

In 1997, Pastor Kim opened Korea's largest rehabilitation and learning center to help blind and low-vision people cope with life and learn new skills. He has also been instrumental in the passage of laws requiring safe public spaces and employment for the disabled.

Pool of Siloam

Pastor Kim's remarkable life has inspired countless individuals. His fortitude and tenacity in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles have given hope to the disabled and powerless, while the example of his untiring, selfless ministry have inspired others to give with generosity of themselves and their goods.

But ultimately, the meaning of his life and his work can be found in the narrative of the Pool of Siloam, in Jesus' reply to his disciples' question—Who had sinned, the man or his parents, for him to have been born blind? None of them, Jesus had answered. He was born blind so "that the works of God might be displayed in him."

DepEd to buy 70M books for P4B

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION is set to buy some 70.6 million textbooks worth about P4 billion in the next two years, according to the DepEd's Instructional Materials Council Secretariat (IMCS).

IMCS executive director Socorro Pilor and Carolina Rivera, officer in charge of the body's procurement monitoring division, assured the public that the DepEd would be buying "high-quality textbooks, those with the best content and the best printing."

The new textbook purchases will test reform measures put in place by Education Secretary Jesli A. Lapus to improve the department's procurement system.

"We expect the cost of textbooks to further go down because of these reform measures," Lapus said.

The measures include the creation of an oversight committee to "further ensure transparency in the government's textbook procurement program."

"The panel will be composed of independent and highly respected educators and experts. Even our critics are welcome to join the committee so that their concerns can be addressed at the proper venue," Lapus said.

Starting this year and "beginning with the procurement of English textbooks, the bidding for textbook content has been separated from the bidding for printing," Lapus said.

Lapus also disclosed that "there are now three bids and awards committees (BACs) in order to improve efficiency and transparency."

"Each BAC will have its own secretariat to ensure that all concerns are addressed the soonest possible time," he said.

Early this year, Lapus ordered the IMCS to conduct a thorough evaluation of new social studies textbooks scheduled for use during the 2007-2008 school year.

He was responding to concerns raised by some lawmakers during a recent Senate hearing about alleged factual and grammatical errors in the DepEd-issued textbooks.

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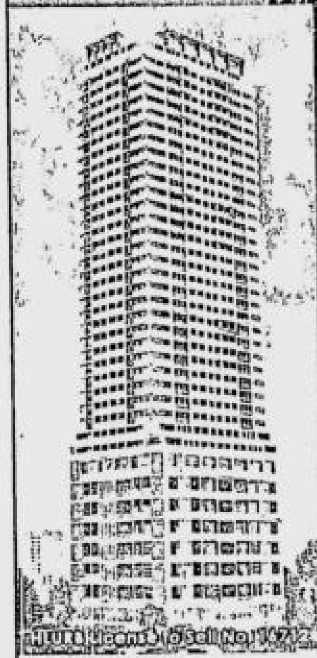

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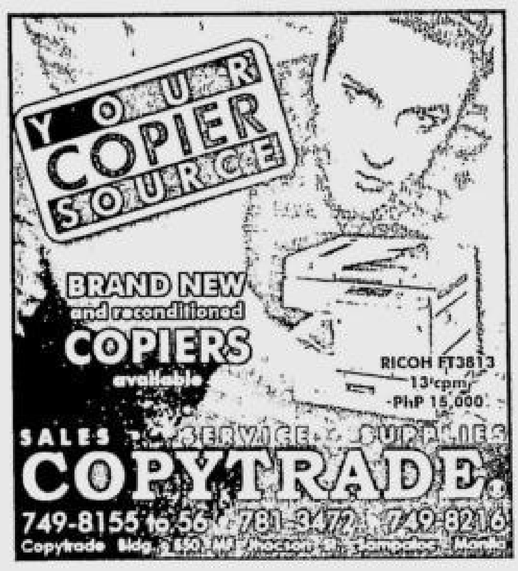

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PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 3928 SERIES OF 2007

Antiterror law a paper tiger, says Cebu solon

By Christian V. Esguerra
and Norman Bordadora

THE CHAIR OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE on the revision of laws says the new antiterror law, or the Human Security Act, is faulty and toothless but is not keen on amending it.

Calling the new law a "paper tiger and virtually useless against terrorist threats, " Cebu Rep. Pablo Garcia advised law enforcers not to use it.

"Keep it, but make it a dead-letter law," he said yesterday. He said authorities would be better off using the antiwiretapping law and the antimoney laundering law in dealing with suspected terrorists.

Garcia, who is a lawyer, is appalled that the HSA seems more inclined to protect terrorists rather than law enforcers.

In a privilege speech last Monday, he noted that the new antiterror law—or RA 9372, which took all of 11 years to pass through Congress amid strong resistance from human rights advocates—identified only two crimes that a terrorist could commit: terrorism and conspiracy to commit terrorism.

"On the other hand, police and law enforcement personnel can be liable for about 20 criminal offenses that they might commit in the course of implementing its provisions," he said.

'Too elaborate'

"It is as if there is a built-in pattern to discourage or inhibit police and law enforcement personnel from implementing, at their own risk, the provisions of the Act," he said.

Under the HSA, arresting officers can be fined half a million pesos for wrongfully detaining a suspect.

He said the law made the process of apprehending suspected terrorists "too elaborate, cumbersome and meticulous."

In his privilege speech, Garcia said that under the HSA, the 9-11 attacks on the United States in 2001 fall short of being considered as acts of terrorism.

Even the gruesome mutilation and beheading of the 10 Marines who died in the July 10 ambush in Basilan, while obviously an act of terrorism, would not be so considered under the HSA's definition, Garcia said.

He said that for an act to be considered terrorism under the HSA, it is not enough that a person commit acts punishable under the Revised Penal Code, and other laws and presidential decrees.

The HSA requires that such an act sow and create a condition of widespread and extraordinary fear and panic, that the act is done "in order to coerce the Government to give in to an unlawful demand."

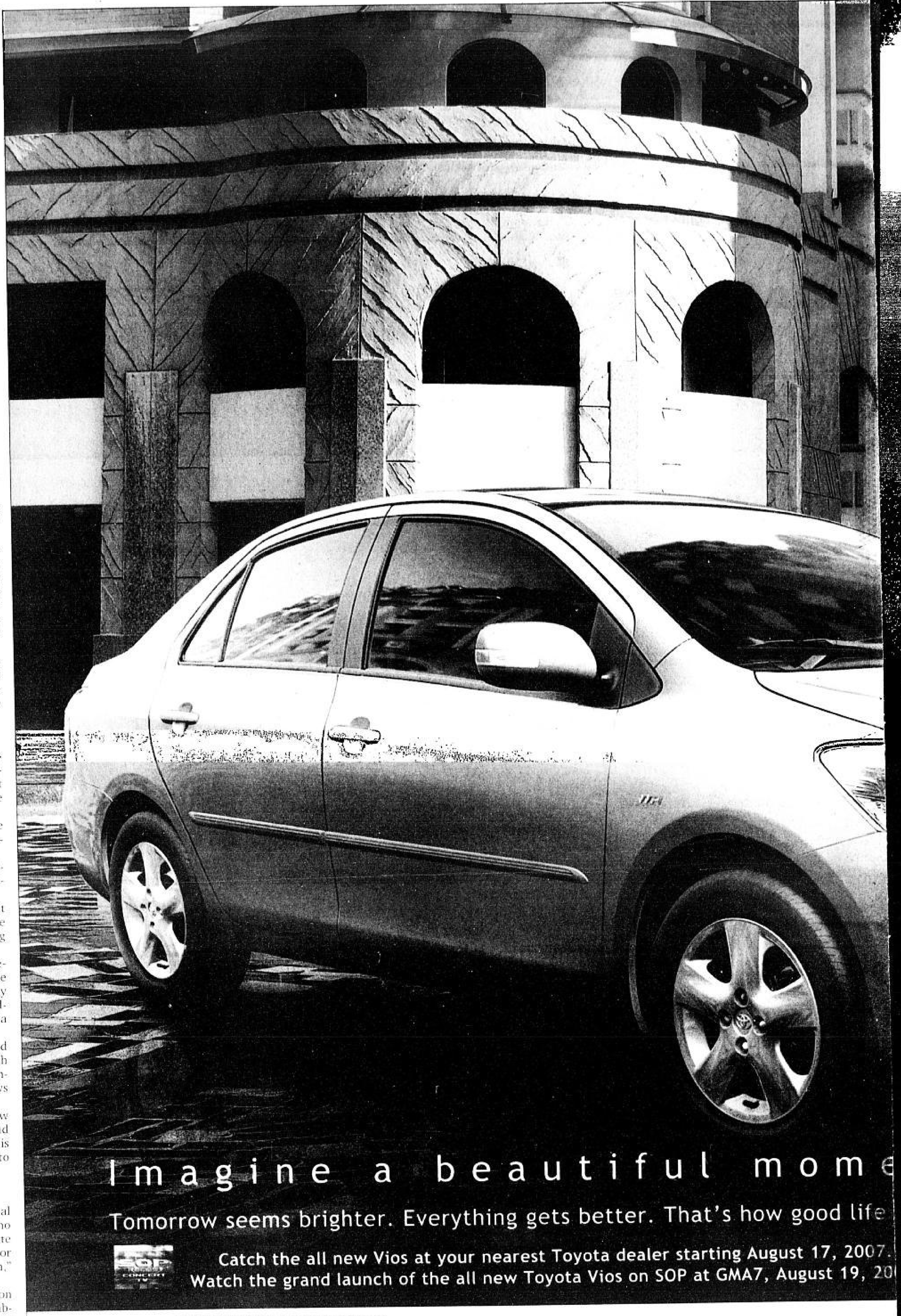
No such crime

"Unless and until these two additional essential elements are present, there is no crime of terrorism. The act may constitute an ordinary crime of murder, kidnapping or arson, etc. but certainly not terrorism," Garcia said.

Garcia said the 9-11 attacks, the London bombings in 2005 and most of the bombings in Iraq do not constitute terror under the Philippine definition.

"Why not? Because these bombings were not done in order to coerce the American, the English or the Iraqi governments to give in to an unlawful demand," he said.

Garcia said the killing of 14 Marines and the decapitation of 10 of them in Al-Barka, Basilan last July also did not suffice as a terrorist act under the HSA.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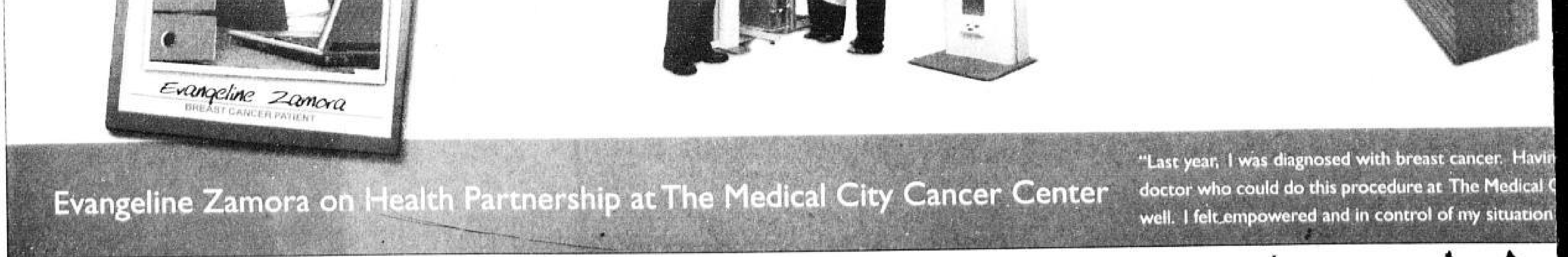

Evangeline Zamora on Health Partnership at The Medical City Cancer Center

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ANG

Atong Ang has job offer, but Sandigan must approve

By Jocelyn R. Uy

WELL-KNOWN FORMER CASINO PATRON Charlie "Atong" Ang has received a job offer he can't refuse.

Citing his "expertise" as a former consultant of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) in the Estrada administration, a company that operates a lottery in Cambodia has asked Ang to be a consultant to it.

Ang, in a letter to the Sandiganbayan Special Division, said the job could be his opportunity to settle debts he had incurred in coming up with the P25-million penalty the antigraft court had imposed on him after he pled guilty to a lesser charge in the plunder case against former President Joseph Estrada.

There is a hitch, however. Ang has been barred by the Sandiganbayan from engaging in any form of gambling—one of the many conditions for his release.

The antigraft court placed Ang under two years' probation three months ago.

Conditions for freedom

As other conditions for his freedom, the Sandiganbayan also ordered Ang to "refrain from associating with persons of questionable character" and get the court's permission each time he wants to go outside Quezon City. He also must get a job to meet his financial obligations.

In a two-page manifestation, Ceres Añonuevo, chief probation and parole officer, told the court Ang received the job offer from the chief executive officer and an investor in 888 Corporation who flew to the Philippines recently.

In a letter to her, Añonuevo said 888 CEO Jeffrey Chua wrote: "We strongly believe the knowledge and expertise of Mr. Ang in this kind of business will be an asset and be beneficial to our company. He will be a great help to us in formulating the appropriate action that the company may need [to take] for its smooth operation."

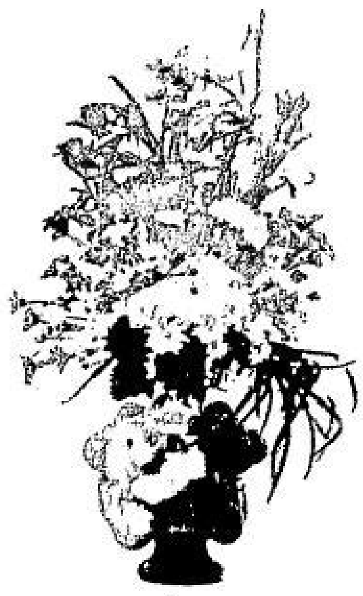
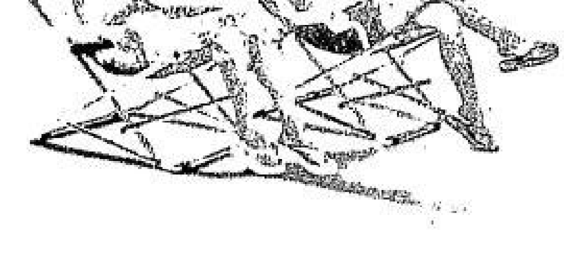
Chua said the company operated the nationwide 6/39 Lottery in Cambodia.

In his letter to Ang, Chua said that as a consultant, he would be in charge of identifying and assessing games that could generate additional revenues for the company.

The company invited Ang on a week-long all-expenses-paid trip to Cambodia to "evaluate the market" and meet high government officials. The trip is set for Aug. 27.

In asking the court to let him fly to Cambodia, Ang affixed the "demand" letters he had received from two associates who helped him raise the P25 million.

In the letters, the two men threatened to sue Ang for failing to repay the P8 million he borrowed from them.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Combat Joe

EDITORIAL

THE OTHER DAY, AN AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE journalist photographed American soldiers spearheading a convoy of Philippine Marines in Sulu. The accompanying story suggested the controversial context in its very first sentence: "Heavily armed US Special Forces troops were seen leading a military convoy Tuesday in Indanan town, Sulu, where security forces are fighting Muslim insurgents."

The story went on to say: "The American troops were part of a convoy of Philippine Marines hunting members of the Abu Sayyaf."

The day after, the Armed Forces of the Philippines issued a series of statements that, in effect, contradicted the evidence of the photographs.

"I was informed that the reason for the mission of the [American] troops is that they are going to conduct site survey in areas where there will be humanitarian assistance and Balikatan activities," AFP spokesman Lt. Col. Bartolome Bacarro told reporters.

Bacarro should tell that to the Marines, as the saying goes. The idea that American troops would conduct, in the middle of a major military offensive, a "site survey" for military exercises to be conducted **next year** is preposterous. The fighting in parts of Sulu is for real; would these American troops put themselves in harm's way simply to scout for locations for war games that are still several months away?

Bacarro's explanation lacks the very plausibility that will allow the public to suspend its disbelief. (Note that even he had distanced himself from the explanation, portraying himself as merely the recipient of information: "I was informed that ...")

It is precisely because of these lame excuses that the AFP's official denials do not carry much weight. More than at any other time since 1986, the AFP top brass today seems to want to manage all information coming out of its camps.

Sought for comment, a spokesman of the US Embassy in Manila had a slightly more plausible, because more generic, clarification. American troops in Sulu were "not involved in any combat roles," the spokesman said, but they will "fire back if fired upon."

"Our role is to advise and assist the Philippine military. This is the main focus of our anti-terror campaign," he added.

But the notion that these highly trained American troops were not actually going into battle, that they are prevented from doing anything except to "fire back if fired upon," is not a reassurance—not if they are deliberately thrust into situations where they **will** be fired upon.

In Camp Aguinaldo the following day, Bacarro described the limits of US military involvement: "technical intelligence, training for soldiers and civil-military-related activities."

Yes, but what were those heavily armed GIs doing at the head of a convoy in Sulu, in the middle of a major campaign?

In all likelihood, the real answer is: The war on terror has allowed the Arroyo administration, the AFP leadership, and military units from the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia to get away with many sins of omission and commission. The three countries at the forefront of the war on terror maintain intelligence units in parts of Mindanao, in those areas where the deadly Jemaah Islamiyah has been known to operate—the last two without benefit of a visiting forces agreement. The United States itself, through the cover of the Joint Special Operations Task Force, has been able to do much more than its limited role implies. Case in point: The US troops sighted on Tuesday belonged to the Task Force which oversees the conduct of military exercises involving Philippine and American troops in the country.

War games in the middle of a war? Tell that to the Marines.

Crumbling bridges

FOREIGN COMMENT

THE NATION'S DETERIORATING INFRASTRUCTURE HAS BEEN well-known for years—and the subject of annual doom-and-gloom reports. But the very word "infrastructure" causes eyes to glaze over. Voters don't demand that it be fixed. And so, politicians don't make it a priority.

Besides worrying if their bridges will collapse under them, Americans should also be worrying if their own often unreasonable demands, and the take-no-prisoners style of politics that exploits those unreasonable demands, are making it impossible for government to perform basic functions like keeping bridges safe. *The Press of Atlantic City (Atlantic City, New Jersey)*

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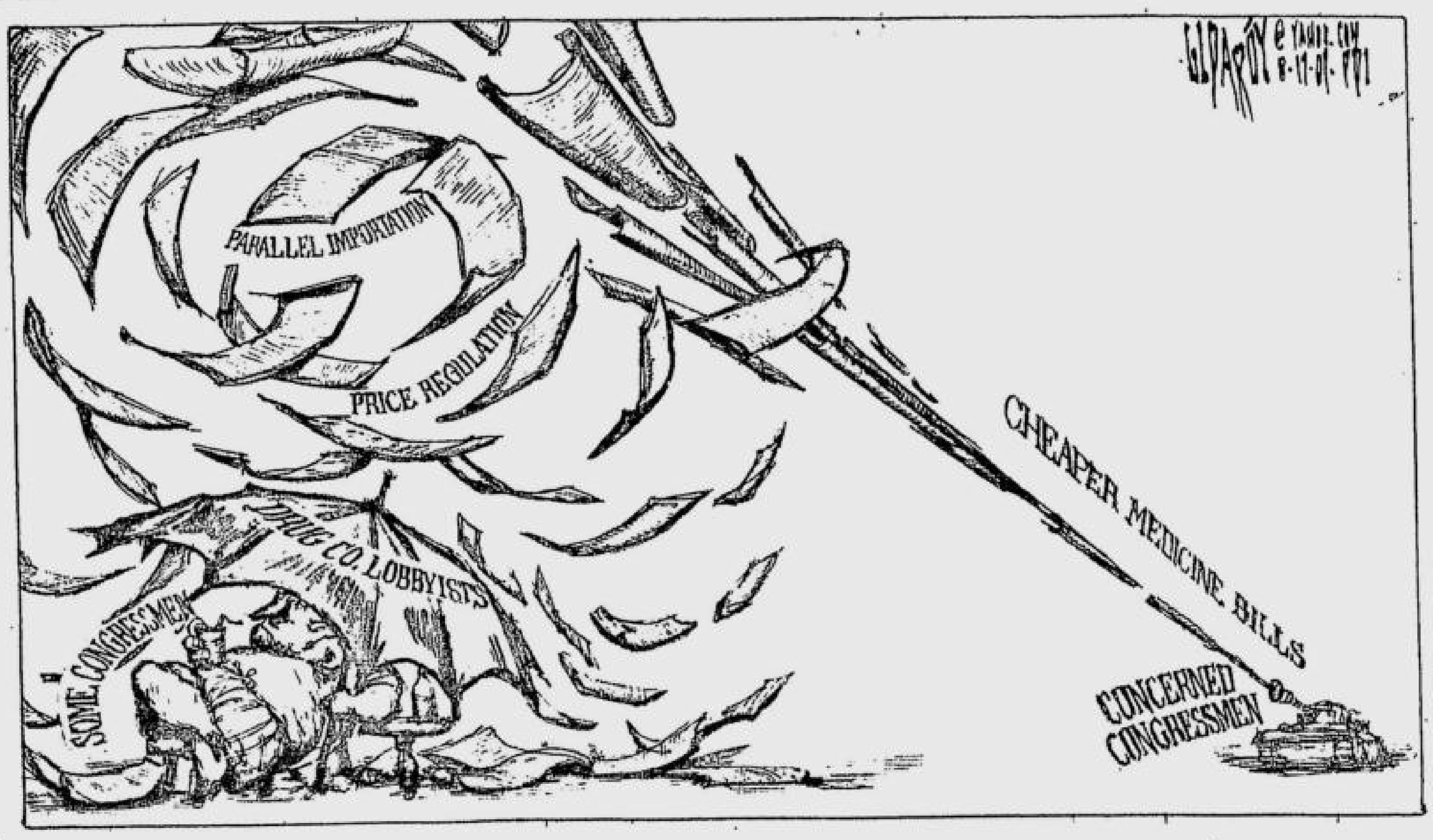

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Reyes assures sufficient power supply

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

ISN'T IT IRONIC THAT ONLY SEVERAL DAYS ago we were praying for rain—indeed, for typhoons—to relieve the water shortage, and now we have too much of it? Metro Manila is flooded with just an hour's downpour, creating monstrous traffic jams. Farms are flooded, crops destroyed, humans forced to wade in floodwaters and take to bancas for transportation. Rivers overflow, dikes are breached, trees and electric posts topple, landslides kill. Our water officials prayed for rain instead of doing their work. God answered their prayers but they did not do their part by unclogging the drainage systems and collecting the garbage.

Now that the water levels in the dams are back to normal (the Ipo Dam even overflowed), our officials will sit on their asses and do nothing to assure that the water supply remains adequate until the next rainy season. Come next summer, as sure as the sun rises in the east, there will again be a water shortage and all our officials will do is pray for typhoons, never mind if typhoons kill and destroy.

But there is something they can do. They can harness (here I go again; but I believe in the saying that if at first you don't succeed in opening the eyes of bureaucrats, try and try again) Wawa Dam in nearby Rodriguez (formerly Montalban). Right now, it is overflowing. Millions of gallons of fresh water pour over the dam every second and flow out to the Pasig River and flood parts of Metro Manila and are wasted in Manila Bay. All they have to do is put connecting pipes from Wawa to La Mesa, just a stone's throw away, so that when the water supply from Angat slackens in summer, Wawa can make up for the shortfall.

The mystery is why the government, through the National Water Resources Board (NWRB), has not done this after 14 years. Fourteen years ago, a contractor offered to do it, at no cost to the government, but the NWRB has not acted on the proposal, neither accepting nor rejecting it. After 14 years, nothing. *Wala, deadma.* Doesn't President Macapagal-Arroyo wonder why?

When there's a water shortage again next summer, don't blame nature. Blame GMA and her bureaucrats.

* * *

Even if there should be a water lack next year, there would be no power shortage. This was the assurance that brand-new Energy Secretary Angelo Reyes gave to the Kapihan sa Manila last Monday. The DOE chief, only 13 days on the job, said the power supply remains sufficient not only to fill present demands but also to support the economic expansion of the country.

So why were there brownouts recently, when the NWRB reduced water allocation to the hydroelectric plants?

"There was no shortage of power," explained Reyes. "We have enough power capacity. [In fact, we have an excess.] When the power output of the hydro plants went down, some of the non-operating thermal plants were harnessed. The trouble is that it takes a thermal plant 24 hours before it starts producing power."

"Also, some brownouts are caused by transmission, not power generation, problems," he added. "When a transmission tower or electric post is toppled, or power lines are blown down, lights go out."

Reyes also revealed that the government is moving toward using less coal- and oil-based plants and more plants using natural gas and biofuels. Oil-based plants are expensive and subject to the whims of Opec, and coal is dirty and a big contributor to global warming.

On the other hand, natural gas is indigenous and plentiful, clean and cheap. And unlike fossil fuel that will soon run out, biofuel based on sugar, coconut oil, corn, cassava and jatropha are inexhaustible. Plus in the horizon, there is nuclear power.

A comparison by year of our power generation mix shows that we are increasingly using more natural gas and less oil and coal. In 2001, coal was 40 percent of our generation mix, oil 21 percent. In 2004, it was 30 percent coal and 15 percent oil. Gas jumped from 2 percent in 2001 to 22 percent in 2004. In 2006, gas was already 29 percent, while coal was down to 27 percent and oil to only 8 percent. Hydro rose slightly from 15 percent to 18 percent. Geothermal remained steady at 18 percent. Biofuels entered the mix at 0.1 percent.

If we are successful in our biofuel program, time will come when we would be an exporter of fuel, considering that we are a major producer of coconut oil and sugar, and the Opec countries will be importing from us when their oil runs out.

Then we can progressively increase fuel prices and let the Opec nations pay through the nose. Wouldn't that be poetic justice?

Question: If there is an excess of power, why are power rates increasing?

Answer: It's not the fault of power generation. It's a distribution problem.

* * *

KAPIHAN NOTES: There will be a Kapihan sa Manila on Monday even if it has been declared an official holiday (the anniversary of Ninoy Aquino's martyrdom). Guest will be the new secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, former Manila Mayor Lito Atienza. Afterwards, there will be the regular Monday lunch of Samahang Plaridel.

* * *

TODAY'S QUOTE. Choice quotes texted by friends and readers will be printed here when there are no really funny jokes. Here is the first:

"Did you ever wonder what words to say if you were given a chance to talk to someone who has amazingly added color to your simple life?

"A heartfelt 'thank you' would probably do."

On legislating holiday economics

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO HAS FOR some time now adopted a policy of "holiday economics," and ordered that certain holidays be observed on the Monday nearest to the date being commemorated. On July 25 this year, that policy became law. Republic Act 9492, entitled "An Act Rationalizing the Celebration of National Holidays," is long overdue but the timing couldn't have been more uncanny.

Just as soon, we celebrate two successive long weekends, namely: Ninoy Aquino Day (traditionally held on the Aug. 21 anniversary of Ninoy's death at the airport tarmac, and this year to be marked one day earlier on Aug. 20) and National Heroes Day (now to be marked on the last Monday of August, which falls on Aug. 27).

Indeed, until this law, the wisdom of Arroyo's holiday economics was overshadowed by its sheer unpredictability. Employers and employees alike were left to the eternal guesswork of what holidays would be celebrated when, and couldn't project their work commitments nor plan their vacations. At the same time, the law reminds us about the place of ritual and symbol in remembering our past and constituting our present.

If I remember correctly, Sen. Richard Gordon initially spoke of holiday economics when he was the secretary of tourism. It will promote domestic tourism by enabling families to take full advantage of long weekends. Otherwise, if we celebrate the holiday on its statutory date, say, a Wednesday, entire families that would have gone on out-of-town vacations would just stay put, and the economy would lose that spike in consumer spending.

Holiday economics, for sure, caters to the upper middle classes that have disposable money available for these jaunts. For the rest of the nation, whether to go to the beach or stay at home depends not on whether there is enough time, but on whether there is enough money. But the experts anticipate at least a 10-percent rise in spending that should, they hasten to add, benefit all of us in the end.

About two years ago, the Joint Foreign Chambers of the Philippines, representing seven chambers of commerce and industry and roughly 1,700 multinational investors in the country, complained about the "unplanned and spur-of-the-moment" announcement of holidays, the lack of any consistent pattern and the "very short lead time" in these announcements. The most severely affected was the manufacturing sector which, in order to meet deadlines, had to incur additional labor costs, increased overhead when fewer workers showed up for work, and delayed deliveries of supplies.

The holiday economics law should put an end to this never-ending guesswork, place the basic matter of work schedules and holidays on rational footing, and move it away from the shifting sands of presidential whim. Without the law, holiday economics was a boon to domestic tourism—and even that was disputed—but a bane to manufacturing and related industries.

I have come across misgivings about the symbolic impact of the law, however. Brand-new Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III has lamented that celebrating his father's martyrdom one day ahead of his actual death diminishes the impact of the holiday. The senator is correct; any deviation from the actual anniversary detracts from the holiday's meaning. Indeed, if the Philippine holiday economics law will follow foreign practice, what will happen next week is that ordinary people will go frolic on Monday, Aug. 20, but the political classes will hear the speeches and lay memorial wreaths on Tuesday. In a way, sad perhaps but certainly realistic, the holiday economics law separates the celebrating from the remembering. Worse, it disengages the work break of the working classes from the speechifying by the chattering classes.

I have read somewhere that the question for the generation before mine was, "Where were you when JFK was shot?" I suppose for my generation of Filipinos, it would be, "Where were you when Ninoy was shot?" and for the next, "Where were you on Sept. 11, 2001?"

I do remember where I was on that Sunday afternoon in August 1983. I do remember the vacuous look on many faces on campus the next day, incredulous that a former senator, of whom college kids then knew little, had been shot in the head. I remember the confusion and fear in the eyes of some brave (or so I thought) student leaders. I remember visiting Ninoy's home on Times Street, and walking past the coffin and seeing his bloodstained white jacket. I remember joining the funeral march from Santo Domingo Church, the sustained drizzle that deterred neither the marchers nor the crowds on the sidewalks. And I recall the ridiculous headline the next day about one of the kibitzers, a man who clambered up a tree and got struck by lightning. Yes, a million defiant people marched in the rain for hours to pay homage to Ninoy, and all the cowed papers could report was that a man fell from a tree.

It was easier, more genuine and heartfelt, the first years we commemorated Ninoy's death. But to sustain our remembering over the years, we have transformed our living memories into ritual, and that is all that is left for the holiday economics law to tinker with.

But such is the nature of ritual. We invent it because we want to hang on, cling on, to the memory of a person or an event long after he or she or the event has passed, and we conjure ways by which to recreate that presence. It is necessarily synthetic and contrived, and if we can by tradition agree to do our remembering together on one day, why can't we by law agree to do so one day earlier? If we have chosen to forget, holiday economics will detract little from the power of rituals to make us remember.

* * *

Comments to passionforreason@gmail.com

Amnesty a glib cure-all

IN LAUNCHING HIS CALL FOR AN "ALL-ENCOMPASSING amnesty to cover all insurgents and (those who) have committed political crimes against the state," Speaker Jose de Venecia expansively described it as a scheme that "will create the beginnings of real national unity."

The call immediately ran into a whirlwind of controversy over the scope of the amnesty. The flak undermined the stated purpose of "laying the basis for final peace settlement" with the communist New People's Army, Muslim separatist groups and extreme Right military putschists, "who have been involved in destabilization."

When pressed to elaborate on his initiative, De Venecia admitted that his plan is not that "all-encompassing." He qualified that his proposal would cover only political crimes and would not include terrorist groups like the Abu Sayyaf.

"Terrorists, like the Abu Sayyaf and other criminal elements and those whose crimes fall under the ... Penal Code should be outside the ambit of this amnesty program," he said.

Despite the qualification, the plan is still full of ambiguities (for example, it is not clear whether the amnesty would cover the plunder case of deposed President Joseph Estrada), and sounds very much like a glib cure-all for the elusive national unity—which De Venecia has a gift for pulling off his hat in times of grave political crises. It is not clear what he means by "enemies of the state."

What seems clear is that De Venecia is passing off amnesty as the only formula for national unity, as if there are no other options available to achieve this objective. Amnesties have not left an enviable record of ending insurgencies, beginning with the limited amnesties at the height of the Hukbalahap rebellion of the 1940s and 1950s. De Venecia has admitted that his proposal was modeled on and expanded the 1995 general amnesty proclaimed by President Fidel V. Ramos to put an end to the military coups that plagued the administration of President Corazon Aquino from 1986 to 1989 and to give incentives to the Moro National Liberation Front to enter into peace negotiations with the government.

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

Although more than 3,000 members of RAM (Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa) led by cashiered Col. Gregorio Honasan availed of the amnesty, it was not an unqualified success in curbing military coup attempts. Honasan acknowledged the advantage of "six years of uninterrupted stability" during the Ramos regime. He got elected as senator but his first term did not fully integrate him into the culture of civilian supremacy over the military. So, in the 2003 Oakwood mutiny, Honasan was implicated as the mastermind. When he ran for reelection last May, the courts dropped the rebellion charges against him, and he was returned to the Senate.

The limited success of the 1995 amnesty cannot be used by De Venecia as a viable model for the more comprehensive amnesty program he envisages to cover possibly even the coup d'etat charges against former Navy lieutenant and now Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV.

De Venecia unveiled his initiative at the worst possible time, when the military is in an avenging mood over the massacre of the Marines in Basilan and amid President Macapagal-Arroyo's campaign to crush the 39-year communist insurgency by 2010.

He is not in sync with the confrontational attitude of the administration whose notion of national unity is subjugation, if not extermination, of groups it has branded as "enemies of the state." Thus, its response to his initiative is lukewarm.

According to De Venecia, the President "is supportive of it as long as it is a legislated amnesty." And he plans to introduce the amnesty legislation as a priority measure for the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council.

The first to knock back the proposal was a group of senators. Anything emanating from De Venecia is anathema to them. This animosity goes back to the efforts of De Venecia to revise the 1987 Constitution to bring about a shift from a presidential system to a parliamentary government, leading to the abolition of the Senate.

Senators took issue with the scope of the "all-encompassing amnesty." Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago thought De Venecia's claim that amnesty would cover all "enemies of the state" was misleading. She said amnesty did not apply to nonpolitical offenses such as plunder. She pointed out that Estrada has not admitted guilt.

Senate President Manuel Villar was noncommittal. On the issue of the amnesty's effect on Estrada, who is awaiting the Sandiganbayan's decision on his plunder case in the next few weeks, Villar said the Senate would review the options after the decision is handed down. Asked about the inclusion of Estrada in the amnesty proposal, the Speaker said, "Let it come normally. Let it be a consensus of all." Villar said he preferred Estrada's acquittal by the Sandiganbayan, "but if that will not happen, we are ready to review all options for President Estrada."

Estrada's son, Senate President Pro Tempore Jose "Jinggoy" Estrada, a co-accused in the plunder case, opposed amnesty. "A pardon is unacceptable," he said, because this would mean his father is guilty. An amnesty program, he said, was all right as long as it did not describe his father as among the "enemies of the state."

The main impact of the amnesty plan is to sidetrack the tremendous significance of the imminent court decision on the plunder case. Whatever the verdict may be, the Sandiganbayan will be terminating the first criminal plunder case in presidential history.

State ownership equals control by pols

REVENUE COLLECTIONS ARE NEVER ENOUGH. Assets for sale are not inexhaustible. And there is a limit to what government can borrow.

These realities impelled the 8th Congress to craft a measure to formalize public sector and private sector partnership in infrastructure development. After all, there's no reason why infrastructures should remain the sole responsibility of the state. Thus, RA 6957, entitled "An Act Authorizing the Financing, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Infrastructure Projects by the Private Sector, and for Other Purposes," otherwise known as the BOT Law was passed on July 9, 1990. Under the BOT scheme, "the contractor operates the facility over a fixed term during which it is allowed to charge facility users appropriate tolls, fees, rentals and charges sufficient to enable the contractor to recover its operating and maintenance expenses and its investment in the project plus a reasonable rate of return thereon."

President Fidel V. Ramos relied heavily on the BOT Law to get us out of the "era of darkness" in the early 1990s. President Macapagal-Arroyo likewise counts on the private sector in the implementation of her Medium Term Development Plan. Since the law's passage, investments in BOT projects have reached $20.349 billion, of which $7.975 billion was invested in power projects. The rest went to the water, information technology and property development sectors. Had it not been for the law, these projects might not have been implemented.

But even a good law can be taken advantage of, if the government is in a weak position. Investors are indispensable partners of government, but they are also hard-nosed businessmen. If they know that the government has no alternative, they will go for maximum advantage. That's how we got the independent power producers (IPPs) with their "take or pay" contracts. Under the contract, the government is obligated to pay for the capacity of the plant regardless of whether it is operating or not. The IPPs knew that while the government mothballed the 620-MW nuclear power plant in Bataan, it did not have a project in the pipeline to replace the lost capacity.

COMMENTARY

Felicito C. Payumo

I am bringing this up because we are being visited again by power blackouts. The recent downpour summoned by prayer power may alleviate the situation, but if we are not able to install the required generating capacity on time, the rotational blackouts could become long and widespread. Shall we then rush in more IPP projects with the "take or pay" provision?

True, the government does not extend a loan guarantee. What it provides is a virtual guarantee against loss. Thus, it was hardly surprising that investors were queuing up to secure an IPP contract.

It was never the intention of the law to shield the investor against loss. The investor is expected to assume the business risks attendant to the financing, construction, operation and marketing of the project. While the matter of government guarantees was included in the definition of terms in the amending law (RA 7718 was passed mainly to include variants of the BOT scheme and to allow unsolicited proposals), there is no specific provision on "government guarantees" in either the original or amending law. It was probably mentioned in the amending law "in anticipation" of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), section 13.2 (b) (ii), on "Credit Enhancements." The IRR provides that "Credit enhancements may include but are not limited to government guarantees on the performance or the obligation of the agency/LGU under its contract with the proponent, subject to existing laws on indirect guarantees."

Lawyers can argue whether or not the rule expands (or amends) the law and provides for something which is not expressly provided by either law. But what is clear is that we will have no choice but to accept more IPP contracts if the government does not act soon to install sufficient new capacity.

All this is not to demean the vital role of the private sector. The furor about the $329 million ZTE National Broadband Network (NBN) and the $460 million backbone for the Cyber Education Program (CEP) brings this issue to the fore. Not only does the government have no core competence for the projects, as two UP economics professors said, it will be abandoning its policy "to stay out of business." The principle of subsidiarity not only says that matters ought to be handled by the smallest, or lowest competent authority, it holds that governments should undertake only those initiatives which exceed the capacity of individuals or private groups acting independently. The government will save money by putting up a backbone for its communications system despite the existence of the IT infrastructure set up by PLDT and its competitors? Why not go the whole hog by buying back Philippine Airlines and Pantranco because government personnel travel extensively between Manila and the remotest barangays? Why not stop selling Napocor's power plants.

Government ownership of business, especially in the Philippines, does not mean public ownership of the business. It only amounts to control by politicians and civil servants. Margaret Thatcher said it well: "State ownership effectively removes—or at least radically reduces—the threat of bankruptcy which is a discipline on privately owned firms... For state-owned businesses, targets can be set, warnings given, performance monitored, new chairmen appointed, but they can never function as proper businesses. The very fact that the state is ultimately accountable for them to Parliament rather than management to shareholders means they cannot be. The spur is just not there."

Felicito C. Payumo is former chair of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority. He is the principal author of the BOT Law. Comments to fcpayumo@gmail.com or fax to 812-4527.

Natural calamities

YEARS AGO, I WROTE ABOUT "HISTORICAL" typhoons from the 16th to the late 19th centuries, based on information dug up from Spanish historical records and listed down by the Jesuit-run Manila Observatory before the war. I wanted to write another column on these typhoons and trace the details, but I couldn't find my notes, so I had to go through the index of the 55-volume "Blair and Robertson" again and got derailed by other topics.

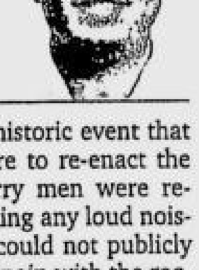
I realized that monsoon rains, typhoons, thunderstorms and the floods that followed their visits to the archipelago were so common that these were often left out of the records unless these delivered widespread destruction and loss of lives.

In terms of narrative accounts on natural calamities, those on earthquakes are more detailed. People would not just note the duration of the tremor but even the direction of the movement. Some people who were out in the streets during an earthquake even claimed they got dizzy, as if sea-sick, and vomited. I have experienced earthquakes on the ground, but I have been told that if you live in a high-rise building, the experience can be unsettling.

One of the engaging intersections of history, folklore and earthquakes is the belief that the tremors that terrorized Spanish Manila in the late 19th century was due to the legendary Bernardo Carpio, who struggled with his chains from his underground prison somewhere in the vicinity of Montalban or San Mateo.

It has been suggested that when Andres Bonifacio led his men inside Pamitinan Cave on Good Friday, April 12, 1895, he was hoping that Bernardo Carpio would be free and help the Katipunan wrest the Philippines from Spain. This seems like a tall tale, but at least we are told that our first declaration of independence was made there. Being Viernes Santo it was forbidden to take a bath, laugh or make loud chatter. It was also the time to make and/or re-charge *anting-anting* for protection during the revolution.

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

I don't want to belittle the historic event that happened here, but if we were to re-enact the scene, Bonifacio and his merry men were restrained by tradition from making any loud noises on Good Friday, thus they could not publicly proclaim independence from Spain with the requisite fervor and volume. They went deep into Pamitinan Cave and there, by the flickering light of candles and torches, Bonifacio wrote, "Long Live Philippine Independence!" (or words to that effect) on the walls of the cave.

I'm told that decades later, Teodoro M. Kalaw led a research expedition into the caves to find this historic inscription and they had photographs to prove it, but I haven't seen these yet. The reason the traditional "Cry of Balintawak" or the official "Cry of Pugadlawin" in August 1896 is better remembered is that it was a public declaration of independence rather than a silent act of writing graffiti deep inside a cave wall.

Earthquakes wreaked more permanent destruction than typhoons. The Manila Cathedral was a casualty, and so was the Governor's Palace in Intramuros, resulting in the move to Malacañang by the Pasig that has, since the 19th century, been the seat of government. Yet typhoons and floods still plague all of us then and now.

We are told that President Macapagal-Arroyo got stuck in traffic last Wednesday because of the flash floods. Somehow a typhoon can be a social leveler and it makes it easier for us to bear our misery to know that the President, despite the valiant efforts of the Presidential Security Group, was caught in traffic like ordinary mortals. I recall photographs of Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos entering Malacañang on wooden benches set up like a bridge because the ground floor of the Palace was knee-deep in water overflowing from the Pasig.

Is anyone, aside from Pagasa keeping a narrative record of typhoons that come our way? I noticed that in the annual reports of the American governors-general, typhoons and other natural calamities are mentioned in the report of the secretary of the interior. The reports contain basic information, like the number of typhoons that passed by and where these caused destruction or loss of life. Everything is short, dry and factual except in the report for 1928 where more than a page is devoted to "The Great Typhoon of 1928" that began on Nov. 23 and was notable because, "from the width of its path and its unusual duration, rather than from exceptional violence, [it] exceeded in destructiveness almost all of the typhoons which have visited the islands since the American occupation."

Aside from the narrative, the details on the damage done are to be found in the reports of the individual department secretaries that comprise the full report. About 500 people were killed and over 25,000 homes were destroyed, whole or in part. Damage to public works was estimated at over half a million pesos.

This was the immediate damage, and what would be felt much later was the traumatic effect on people and agriculture. Then as now, there is very little we can do when we find ourselves in the path of a storm.

***

Weather permitting, the Museum Foundation of the Philippines has arranged for me to give a lecture on Juan Luna at Ablaza Hall, National Museum, tomorrow Aug. 18 at 10 a.m. The public is invited. Students get a discount on the entrance fee.

***

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu

Dark nights

TYPHOON "EGAY" WAS RAGING WHILE SOMEONE IN the house was surfing the cable channels. Listening to the newscasters' voices, I could see the channels' logos flashing in my mind—ANC, BBC, CNN—as news streamed in about Mindanao, Iraq, the typhoon, the stock markets going into a slow crash. Then at one point, I suddenly felt overwhelmed, the alphabet letters blinking out, and all I could think of were dark nights.

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

Some years back an elderly UP professor told me she had stopped reading the papers and listening to the newscasts, because all she was getting was bad news. I was already doing this column at that time, and I couldn't imagine writing without being aware of what was going on.

Through the years, I've come to understand why she had stopped tuning into the news. Simply because there's so much more now of information (and misinformation) technologies, it is easy to become engulfed by it all. And because there's so much competition for people's attention, the networks, the Internet, even the DVD pirates, now have to outdo each other with the sensational, whether through crime or cleavage. The danger then is that we become desensitized and everything becomes banal. Eventually, it doesn't matter anymore whether it's a car bomb in Iraq or in Sri Lanka. Even the sleaze of movie gossip becomes as surreal as the silver screen, like that of Yilmaz and Ruffa remarrying after weeks of blow-by-blow media wars, of X-rated DVDs being sold in Quiapo purportedly with a Filipina actress in the lead role, when it's actually a porn star in Thailand.

Bodies and body counts—that's what the news has become.

Disengaging

Mass media turns up the volume on our troubled and turbulent times. Yet the reactions of despair are not new. One of the greatest English poems ever written, "Dover Beach," by Matthew Arnold, was published in 1866, but it was probably written more than a decade earlier. The poem foreshadows the despair that dogs us over and over again each day into our 21st century. He was writing when the mass media was in its infancy, but the reach of newspapers to thousands of people on a daily basis had already began. News traveled fast, about good times and progress, as well as about wars and revolutions.

Arnold's poem begins with a reference to the beauty of Dover Beach. We read of "cliffs glimmering and vast, out in the tranquil bay" but he quickly moves on to describe the stark quality of the waves' "tremulous cadence" bringing in an "eternal note of sadness." The poem unfolds and we read of a receding "sea of faith," the waves now long, now melancholy. The world, which we think to be "so various, so beautiful, so new," turns out to offer "neither joy, nor love, nor light, nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain." The last lines have been quoted repeatedly: "And we are here on a darkling plain/ Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight/ Where ignorant armies clash by night."

Today the ignorant armies clash by night and by day, covered live by the networks. It's tempting to disengage out of despair and create our own worlds. I see that happening to young people, who create new private worlds with their Ipods and chat rooms and Second Life on the Internet and select who and what they want to see and hear through the day.

Others succumb to apocalyptic doomsday preachers who point to the violence of nature and of men to prove the end is near. Repent and pray hard, we are admonished, and we do—or everything, for the rains to fall, for the rains to stop.

Filipinos have the extra option of packing up and leaving, seeking refuge, ironically, in the very belly of the whale, where more Ipods, more chat rooms, beckon.

Mind you, I have more than my fair share of having to deal with "bad news." Because I, too, am a journalist, I have no choice but to tune in to the body counts. And because I teach and work in public health, I get the body counts not just in the news.

The other day, I had to go through several essays describing the health situation in rural areas, written by physicians in Ateneo's Leaders in Health Project, who are assigned to some of the most remote areas in the country. Talk about bodies, and leading causes of death and illness. One essay got me particularly depressed: it was about household incomes and expenditures in one town, and the savings. We're talking here about monthly incomes and expenditures amounting to less than P5,000. It was incredible that they had savings—in the range of P100 or P200. No wonder the children die from "simple" diarrhea.

Long nights

Yes, I wonder too about disengaging, but not by packing up and leaving, or by joining (or starting) some religious sect. And I think too of another type of dark night, described in "Dark nights of the soul," a poem with a long expository text by St. John of the Cross, a 16th century Christian mystic, who wrote about the necessity of loneliness, desolation and abandonment that must come as part of our spiritual quests.

Following St. John, the way to deal with the dark nights is not to escape reality but to take heart and plunge headlong into the darkness. It's distancing from the world, without disengaging. I think of how we might want to listen to the news and yet be conscious about not ending up depressed or desensitized. We need to be affected, but not overwhelmed, and that could begin by empathizing with the people whose nights will be long and dark.

I think of how long the night will be for families without adequate shelter: the winds will seem so much stronger, the floodwaters so much more threatening. I think of how long the night will be for the widows and orphans of Mindanao, especially the civilians who are wondering when the next offensive will be. Many years ago, I was caught in a war zone in the Cordillera during a military offensive, and saw how families found themselves trapped, unable to go out to get food and provisions. I have never forgotten how, one night in the house where I was staying, a child was crying and his mother hushed him by threatening: "The soldiers will come and get you."

I think, too, of the soldiers, some barely out of childhood, fretting through the long night. I think of the front-page photograph in the INQUIRER of a young soldier and his comrades, smiling for the camera a few days before getting killed.

When we empathize about dark nights, fearful and fitful, we think of what we might be able to do, constructively. As a people, our nights will be longer than they actually are for as long as we seek sleaze and gore, our hearts beating in rhythm with the drums of war. Imagine instead what goes outside the range of cameras, in the dead of the night, in the hearts of parents and spouses and friends and lovers, and we just might better understand St. John's point about how darkness can illuminate.

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Bohol gov 'acting like a jerk'

IF WE'RE LOOKING FOR BAD examples of local governance, the decision of Bohol Gov. Erico Aumentado to scuttle a road project in Boom Boom Bautista's village should stand out. ("Boom Boom's village also loses," INQUIRER, 8/13/07)

Are infrastructure projects identified and picked on the basis of the results of boxing bouts? Is this a new development paradigm? A new incentive for young boxers to make good in their boxing careers so their villages could benefit from the promises of local government executives? Where is the development logic here? Aren't we using need and development potential as criteria for identifying infrastructure projects?

Aumentado was not even shy about it: he made sure that his displeasure with Bautista's loss and his decision to "punish" him and his village would be known by the whole world through the media.

Poor Boom Boom Bautista. Had he known his village would lose the road project this way, he might have used a spade and a hoe to batter his opponent into submission.

Will the governor please explain to the country why he's acting like a jerk?

—JALILO DELA TORRE,
jalilodelatorre@gmail.com

This plan of JDV deserves support

THIS IS A REACTION TO THE report "Truant solons to be listed in newspaper." (INQUIRER, 8/8/07) Speaker Jose de Venecia plans to publish the list of frequent absentees among the members of the House of Representatives. The plan is commendable and worth considering. I hope it will push through and will be executed with honesty, sincerity and a pure heart.

Such a publication will be beneficial to Filipinos who have more than enough of the poor attendance of their representatives in House sessions. It will tell our people who among the House members are frequent absentees and poor performers.

Filipinos expect from their congressmen and congresswomen sincere service and genuine representation. The people have the right to know and to be informed of how their representatives are performing in their jobs. I hope that the Speaker's plan will materialize and serve its purpose.

—JUNREY S. PAGAL,
St. John the Baptist Seminary,
58 East Drive Apitong St.,
Marikina Heights, Marikina City

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LETTERS

When gov't works with private sector

THE FRONT-PAGE PHOTO ("Batanes schools now fully wired") in the INQUIRER's July 31 issue, which showed UP students helping "erect an antenna near the Batanes National High School in Basco," was reminiscent of a picture of Iwo Jima taken during World War II.

The story tells how the joint effort of local leaders, civil society and the private sector led to the interconnection of all public schools in the island province of Batanes. It is a particular story with general implications. Time and again we say, "Filipinos can do it."

To drive the point: the government did not have to enter into a shadowy contract like the $329-million NBN deal (financed through an official loan, by the way) with China's ZTE since Filipinos can actually do the job—at practically less cost and with no strings attached.

To drive the point further: it shows that development and infrastructure projects (which the government is fond of) may be done by local industries—with capital from the government for pump priming; the projects don't have to be farmed out to foreign countries. This way, the benefits to be derived from the projects will be enjoyed by more sectors.

Think about it, the DOTC need not even have run a full-page ad (INQUIRER, 8/4/07) paid with public funds to defend ZTE. That was simply too much for a project that Filipinos can do.

—MARCO M. DE LOS REYES,
national president,
National Union of Students of the Philippines,
nusp_national@yahoo.com

Quezon's vision of the Filipino people

AUG. 19, 1938 IS ONE HISTORIC date that I can't erase from memory. It was the 60th birthday of President Manuel L. Quezon, popularly known as MLQ. On that memorable morning, my battalion of the ROTC Unit of the Philippine School of Arts and Trades was marching along Taft Avenue from Ayala Boulevard with other units from FEU, Mapua Institute of Technology, Adamson, UM, University of Sto. Tomas and Manila University.

While on Taft Avenue, we were joined by units from the University of the Philippines, Ateneo de Manila University and De La Salle University. We were all bound for the baseball diamond of the Rizal Memorial Coliseum to honor the Commonwealth President.

When the "Great Kastila," as Quezon was fondly known, began his speech, there was already a slight drizzle beneath a bit of sunshine reminiscent of the *sol de Agosto* and our pressed uniforms were getting wet. While the President was in the middle of his speech, a big downpour began to steal the show, followed by lightning and booming thunder.

The military formation suddenly broke up and the cadets scampered to get shelter from the angry rain. But our wild behavior irritated the President. He momentarily stopped his speech and shouted over the microphone, "What are you? Are you made of paper?" The President uttered harsh words in Spanish, which we cadets could hardly understand.

Then we regrouped and went back to our former formation. Continuing his speech, the President admonished us: "I want our people to be like a molave tree, strong and resilient, standing on the hillsides, unafraid of the rising tide, lightning and the storm, confident of its strength." (Incidentally, famous poet Rafael Zulueta de Zuñiga immortalized the President's memorable speech in his prize-winning poem "Like a Molave Tree.")

—LEON S. DEL ROSARIO,
Binakayan, Kawit, Cavite

Myopic view on command responsibility

I DISAGREE WITH THE SENTIMENTS that Gen. Ramon Farolan expressed in his Aug. 6 column. He called for the resignation of the Armed Forces chief of staff, Southcom commander and Wesmincom commander for the fate that befell the beheaded Marines.

An experienced soldier like Farolan surely knows that not all battle situations turn out the way they are described in training manuals. Bad things inevitably happen in the field. Asking three generals to resign because of the incident helps no one.

When he was the commanding general of the Philippine Air Force, would he have resigned every time the lowliest A2C, say, failed to sweep the hangar of the 505 Search and Rescue Group? Because that, essentially, is the very myopic view taken by Farolan on command responsibility: every screw-up by subordinates should be blamed directly on the topmost superiors in the chain of command.

That hardly seems like a reasonable course of action to address the recent debacle.

—JOSEPH W BUDUAN,
Unit 2904 C, West Tower,
Philippine Stock Exchange Center, Pasig City

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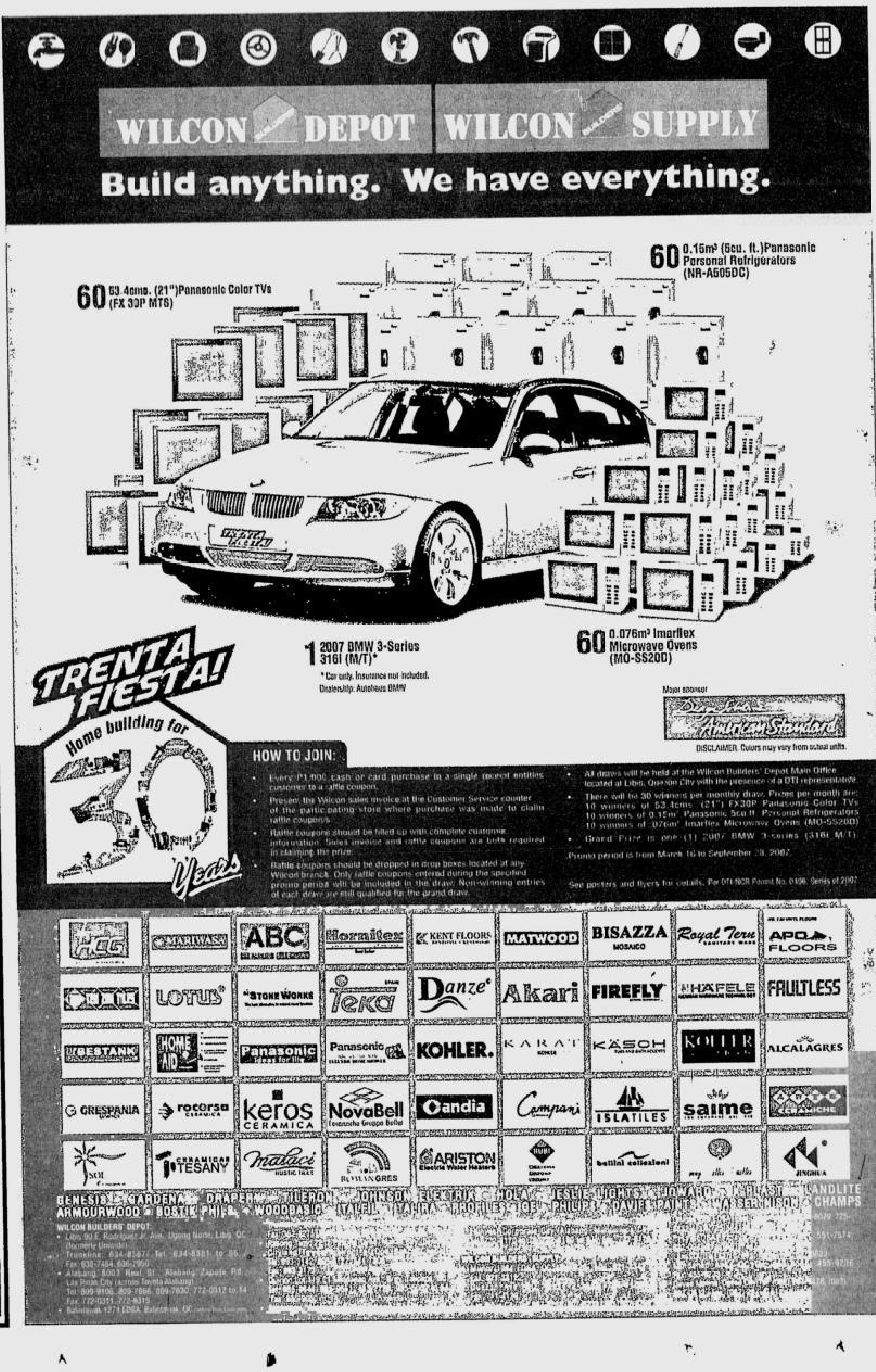
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Mindanao 'lumad' group accuses NPA of murders

By Volt Contreras

AN UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION OF ETHNIC groups in Mindanao has tagged communist rebels to be behind the murder of several tribal chiefs over the last four years, and also asked authorities to reopen a "mass grave" in Agusan del Norte which yielded up to 30 bodies when discovered in 1998.

A delegation of eight *datus* (chieftains), representing the Mindanao Indigenous Peoples Conference for Peace and Development (MIPCPD), met with the Commission on Human Rights on Wednesday to lodge complaints.

In that first meeting with CHR chair Purificacion Quisumbing, the group was accompanied by Maj. Gen. Jaime Buenaflor, chief of the Civilian Military Operations unit (J7) of the Armed Forces.

The *datus*, headed by MIPCPD chair Joel Unad, returned to the CHR for further dialogues yesterday, during which they pinned at least six murders on the New People's Army, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

They identified the victims as Datu Ernesto Burdeos of Nasipit, Agusan del Norte (killed on July 7, 2007), Datu Manuel Butig of Davao City (Nov. 11, 2005), Datu Alabat Pinakitob of Las Nieves, Agusan del Norte (Oct. 17, 2006), Datu Mariano Man-oyao of Kitao-tao, Bukidnon (Sept. 7, 2003), Christopher Lapindoy of Davao City (March 6, 2007) and one Lentahudan Belayong of Esperanza, Agusan del Sur.

Butig was shot dead in the presence of her daughter who was then celebrating her birthday, according to one account.

"We can no longer stand the abuses," one of the eight chieftains, Datu Mancombate Deo Manpatilan of the Higa-onon tribe, told reporters at the CHR yesterday.

The group also asked Quisumbing to revisit a mass grave discovered by tribal folk in the jungles of Barangay Lawan-Lawan in Las Nieves town, where at least 30 bodies were recovered in 1998.

The pit could still yield more corpses believed to be those of the victims of the brutal purges carried out by the NPA in the 1980s against suspected infiltrators, another chieftain, Ronald Manhumosay, told the INQUIRER through an interpreter.

Established in 2003, the MIPCPD is said to represent the 18 ethnic, non-Muslim tribes (or *lumad*) accounting for seven million people in Mindanao.

Indigenous peoples in Mindanao and elsewhere in the country often get caught in the crossfire since they live in areas where communist or separatist guerrillas operate.

Earlier in Davao City, two Mindanao-based indigenous peoples' organizations called for a greater defense of their ancestral domain against what they claimed were oppressive development programs.

The call was made in time for the International Day of the World's Indigenous People recently, which the United Nations said was aimed at highlighting issues confronting indigenous communities all over the world.

Dulphing Ogan, secretary general of Kusog sa Katawhang Lumad sa Mindanao (Kalumaran) or the Power of the Indigenous People of Mindanao, clarified that *lumad* communities are not opposed to development.

Ogan, however, said what they were opposing are those that benefit foreign mining corporations and transnational companies "at the expense of our ancestral domain, life and culture."

He also criticized laws, which allegedly facilitated the entry of big business into their ancestral domains, such as the Mining Act of 1995. *With a report from Jeffrey M. Tupas, Inquirer Mindanao*

CLOUD SEEDING officers unload salt from a small plane around the Angat Dam in Bulacan to help in the production of rain, one of the measures the government had taken at the height of a dry spell that destroyed crops in Luzon. RAFFY LERMA

Farmers told of new irrigation strategy to conserve water

By Hazel P. Villa
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—THE PHILIPPINE Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) said there is an innovative irrigation strategy for rice farming that can effectively conserve water to cushion the effects of the drought.

The PhilRice said farmers could use an "ingenious and practical water management approach" called Controlled Irrigation (CI) as government warned of a continuing dry spell.

In its Aug. 2 advisory, the PhilRice said that controlled irrigation is advisable for rice fields with just enough supply of water.

"With CI, only the basic amount of water is applied in each field for equal distribution even in areas that are far from irrigation dams," said PhilRice, which is based in Maligaya, the Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija.

The PhilRice said that rice could last without water for 30 days after planting in clayish soil, and 15 days after planting in sandy loam soil.

"The first irrigation of at least one-inch depth should be done as soon as rice leaves curl at around 12 noon. Yield losses may occur if leaves start curling at 10 a.m. or earlier. Soil wet by occasional rain may be enough to sustain the plants until the crucial panicle (terminal flowering head) initiation and flowering stages," said PhilRice.

It also suggested that farmers invest in making a shallow tube well where they could pump irrigation water.

The research institute also advised farmers not to plant rice if the usual planting period has passed because this would expose the rice plants to strong winds during their flowering stage or destruction during typhoons.

The government has been searching for ways to reduce damages from the drought.

In Bulacan, Environment Secretary Lito Atienza on Wednesday led residents, local government officials and volunteers in planting 5,000 seedlings in the denuded areas of Ipo Dam watershed here.

Atienza said the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will plant 40 million trees nationwide in the next three years to "green the country."

Ipo Dam supplies water to Metro Manila residents and irrigates farms in Central Luzon.

Atienza urged officials of 50,000 villages, 1,600 towns and 240 districts in the country to initiate tree planting activities in their areas. *With a report from Carmela Reyes, Inquirer Central Luzon*

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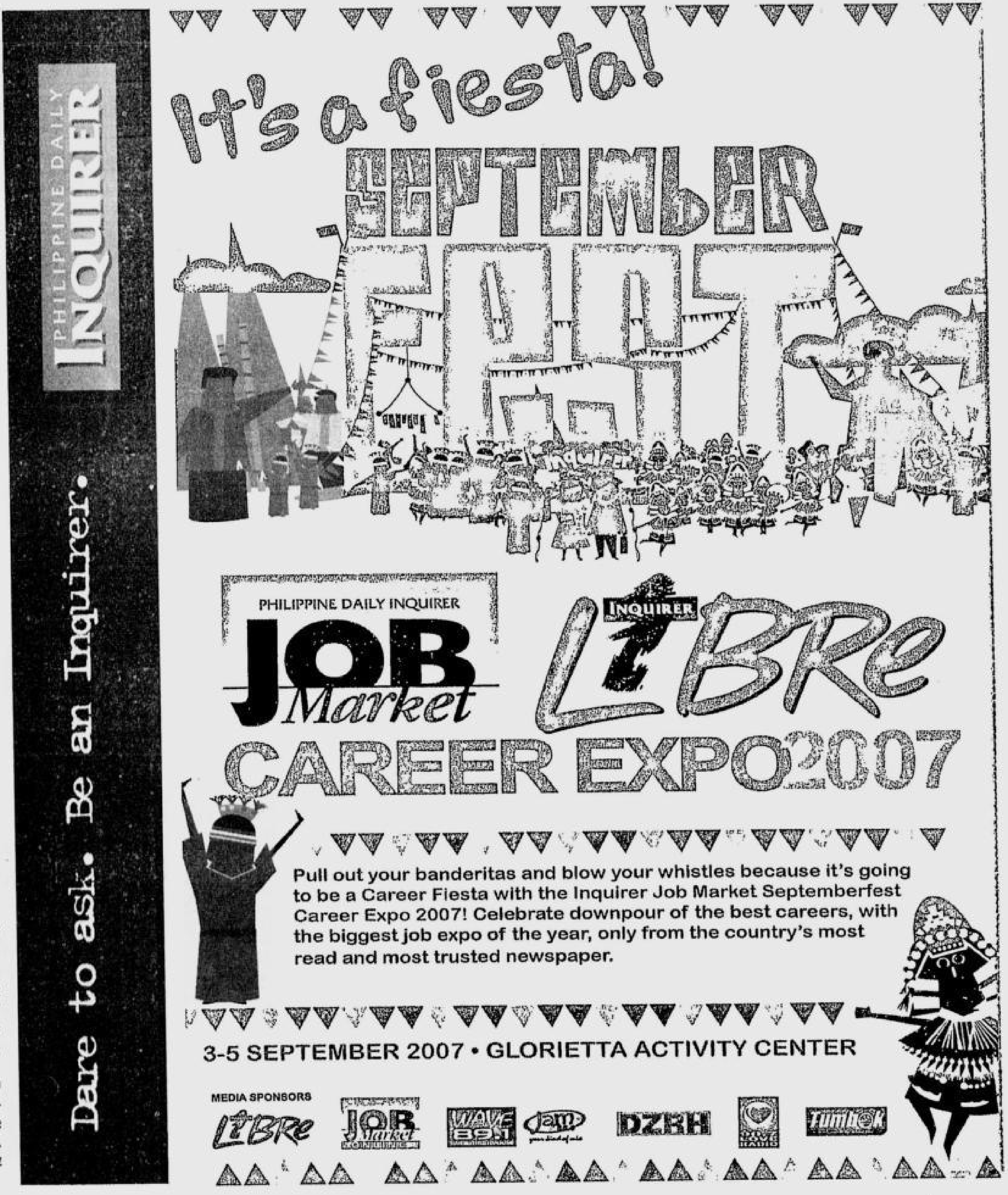

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Long term plan for oil spill victims sought

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—A RESEARCH team from a Toronto law school suggested a long-term rehabilitation plan for victims of oil spill and other disasters to address their mental and psychological health.

The three-member team, composed of students of the Osgoode Hall Law School of York University, conducted a three-month research aimed at improving the emergency response process based on the experience in dealing with the Aug. 11, 2006 oil spill in Guimaras.

The research, done in partnership with the Canadian Urban Institute and conducted through interviews with and data gathering from various stakeholders, cited the need for long-term mental and psychosocial health rehabilitation of residents affected by the oil spill.

Stress management

The program should include the automatic evaluation of psychosocial needs after the disaster, training of workers on stress management, providing on-site psychosocial support units and the designation of an institute to manage the program.

The research also called for major reforms, including legislation in the country's disaster management laws, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

The research team's findings and recommendations supported earlier researches conducted by physicians and sociologists on oil spill-affected Guimaras residents.

A preliminary study conducted on the impact of oil spill by doctors belonging to environmental group We Heal and the Iloilo Medical Society last year found that residents in Sibunag town and in Barangay Lapaz in Nueva Valencia, among the hardest hit areas by the oil spill, showed common symptoms resulting from the disaster.

The most common include trouble thinking clearly, poor sleep, feeling tired all the time, poor appetite, tense or worried and indecisiveness. The emotional symptoms include feeling unhappy, difficulty in enjoying work and loss of interest in activities.

LIFE amid death springs from mangroves in Guimaras that are vainly trying to remain alive but could hardly do so as their roots and pores are clogged with oil.
HAZEL P. VILLA/INQUIRER VISAYAS

"The most significant effects of the oil spill that affected the respondents were not knowing what to do and not knowing what is happening. The foremost reactions that were felt by them were fear, anger, shock and sleeplessness," according to the report that We Heal and the Iloilo Medical Society submitted to the scientific conference on the oil spill held in September last year.

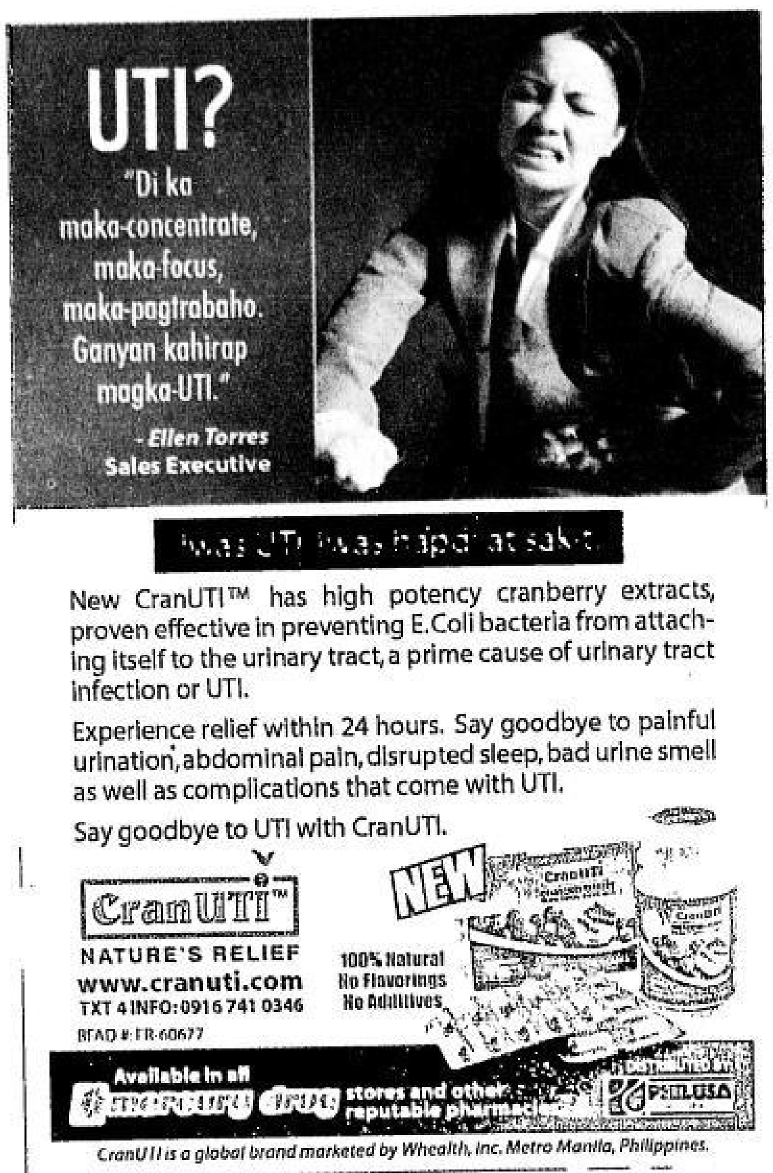
Community cooperation

A separate study conducted by sociologist Artchil Fernandez, of the Central Philippine University Research Center, showed that there was a significant decrease of community cooperation in areas affected by the oil spill.

Fernandez said in his research that conflicts arose in the community due to the clean-up operation and the distribution of relief goods.

There was also a significant increase of family separation because family members transferred to evacuation centers or were forced to work in the cleanup or in other provinces, he added.

The doctors and psychologists recommended the development of a mental health program in primary health care in order to address the mental health needs of the community.



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ROUNDUP

2 women drown in Cotabato

MATALAM, North Cotabato—Two women drowned while trying to cross a flooded river here over the weekend.

North Cotabato Gov. Jesus Sacdalan said Rosy Werta, 26, and a certain Inday Marcelino, both residents of this town, crossed an overflowing Manubuan River using a makeshift bamboo bridge on Friday night while it was raining hard.

"The strong water current swept off the two women," Sacdalan said. On Saturday morning, farmers of Barangay Lampayan here retrieved Werta's body. Her companion's body was fished out Sunday in the same village. ***Charlie C. Señase, Inquirer Mindanao***

Motorbike rider dead in mishap

LUCENA CITY—A man died after his motorcycle smashed into a bus on the Maharlika Highway in Ibabang Palsabangon, Pagbilao, Quezon on Aug. 13.

Police said Melchor Padilla, 31, of Lucena City, was aboard a Honda motorcycle without license plate, when he was bumped by a Hanna bus driven by Melchor Redoma.

Padilla's motorcycle swerved to the left and collided with another bus.

Padilla died on the spot from severe head and body injuries while the two bus drivers were detained at the Pagbilao town jail.

Police said there was an increase in the number of motorcycle accidents along the Maharlika Highway.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon

G. Punto; 90

SAN PABLO CITY—Gertrudo Belarmino Punto, a lay eucharistic minister at the San Pablo Cathedral and head lecturer of the Family Life precana seminar, died of natural causes on Aug. 12. He was 90 years old.

Punto was a former member of the Knights of Columbus and was also a division city school supervisor and city councilor.

His remains lie at their residence in the city. He was buried yesterday at the San Pablo Memorial Park.

Romulo Ponte, Inquirer Southern Luzon

2 'salvage' victims

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—The bodies of a man and a woman were found at the national road in Luisiana, Laguna on Aug. 13.

Laguna police director Senior Supt. Felipe Rojas Jr. said police have yet to identify the bodies which were found by residents in a sewage canal on the roadside of the national highway in Barangay San Antonio at about 8 a.m. Rojas said the bodies bore gunshot wounds in the head and chest. He said the victims could be between 25-30 years old.

Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Fisherman missing

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—A fisherman who had gone fishing alone off the waters of Calatagan, Batangas has been reported missing since Thursday.

Calabarzon police director Chief Supt. Nicasio Radovan Jr. said Angelo Cudiamat, 47, a resident of Barangay San Jose, left the coast of Calatagan alone early Thursday despite the rough seas.

He said relatives of Cudiamat immediately sought help from authorities after he failed to come home on the same day.

Radovan said personnel of the Philippine Coast Guard, Bantay Dagat and the local police had launched a search and rescue operation to locate the missing fisherman. ***Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon***

Danao village head slain

CEBU CITY—A barangay captain of San Francisco town, Camotes Island was shot dead shortly before noon of Aug. 10 in Danao City, about 33 km north of Cebu City.

Cresencio Estrera, 55, chair of Barangay Sta. Cruz and president of the Association of Barangay Captains (ABC) in San Francisco, was walking with his brothers Pepito and Eusebio along the national road near Plaza Rizal, Danao City at 11:45 a.m. Friday when he was shot by a lone assailant, said Danao City police chief Supt. Larson Dechino.

Dechino said Cresencio, who died on the spot, was the only target because the gunman aimed at just one of the Estrera brothers who tried to chase the suspect.

The gunman escaped in a motorcycle driven by another suspect.

Jhunnex Napallacan, Inquirer Visayas

Expect heavy rains even as 'Egay' skirts country

From page A1

caster Robert Rivera told reporters.

Rivera said this could be attributed to the fact that rain clouds associated with the southwest monsoon were moving slowly as they approached the metropolis, Bataan, Cavite, Batangas, Rizal and Laguna.

Heavy rains forced authorities to close schools on Wednesday and yesterday. The rains created monstrous traffic jams.

As of 7 a.m. yesterday, light to moderate rain fell in Bicutan, Las Piñas, Lagro in Fairview, Novaliches and Diliman, all in Quezon City.

Elsewhere, light to moderate to heavy rain was experienced in northern Palawan, northwestern Panay, Oriental Mindoro, Batangas and Cavite, according to the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa).

Blowing northwestward at 15 kph, Egay was expected to pass near the northernmost province of Batanes on Saturday before churning toward southern Taiwan and mainland China.

3rd storm in 1 month

This morning, the strongest typhoon to threaten the country this year is expected to be 280 km east northeast of Aparri, Cagayan.

As of 5 p.m. yesterday, Egay, the third storm to enter the Philippine area of responsibility this month, was packing maximum sustained winds of 215 kph from 185 kph, with gustiness of 250 kph, according to Pagasa.

A typhoon that has reached maximum winds of 215 kph is classified as a supertyphoon by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center in Guam. A supertyphoon, however, is not included in Pagasa's classification of weather disturbances.

"We classify cyclones up to typhoon only," weather forecaster Bernie de Leon said.

Storm Signal No. 2 has been raised over the Batanes group of islands, while Signal No. 1 remained in effect over Cagayan, including the Babuyan group of islands, Isabela and Catanduanes.

Monsoon rain

"We're advising those living in areas under Signal No. 1 to be on alert against possible storm surges," Rivera told reporters at the forecasting office of Pagasa.

Pagasa also cautioned the public living in areas of Luzon and the Visayas not under Signal No. 1 against flash floods and landslides.

"While there's no storm signal in these areas, the people here will still experience the effect of the monsoon rain. They are under threat by the southwest monsoon *(habagat)*," Rivera said.

Evacuated

More than 220 people were evacuated on Wednesday by Army troops and firefighters from their flooded homes, mostly in Manila's flood-prone suburban cities of Marikina, Malabon and San Juan, the National Disaster Coordinating Council said.

There were no immediate reports of injuries from the fifth serious storm to hit the country this year.

Back-to-back storms set off landslides and inundated many agricultural regions of Luzon last week, killing at least eight people, according to the government's Office of Civil Defense.

Stranded

Some 265 passengers were stranded in Bicol as of noon yesterday, as storm signal No. 1 was hoisted over Catanduanes, the Office of Civil Defense-Bicol said.

There were 245 passengers and 21 vehicles and boats stranded at the Tabaco City port in Albay and 20 passengers at the Virac port in Catanduanes.

Residents living in high-risk areas around Mayon volcano in Albay and Bulusan volcano in Sorsogon were advised to stay alert and take precautionary measures against possible lahar flows.

The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) suspended all sea travel from the ports of Batangas and Mindoro Oriental to prevent accidents that the bad weather might cause, the Office of Civil Defense in Calabarzon said.

Vicente Tomazar, OCD-Calabarzon chair, said the PCG stopped all sea vessels, including roll-on roll-off (Roro) ships, from leaving the ports of Calapan City in Mindoro Oriental and Batangas City since Wednesday night.

"We did this to avoid tragedies like what happened recently to M/V Blue Princess (in Marinduque)," Tomazar told the INQUIRER.

Aerial reconnaissance

After clogging streets and stranding passengers, the floodwaters receded in most of Metro Manila by daybreak yesterday.

The rains that had overwhelmed major Metro Manila streets and even held up President Macapagal-Arroyo's convoy on Wednesday were gone, retreating with the typhoon except in flood-prone areas in bayside barangays of Malabon City.

As observed during a two-hour aerial reconnaissance mission by the Philippine Air Force (PAF) 505th Search and Rescue Group, traffic flow was back to normal in the metro's major roads. But rivers remained muddy and swollen.

Gentle waves

Manila Bay brought ashore gentle waves, allowing yachts to line up at the marina by Roxas Boulevard. Most fishing boats in Malabon were still docked, and only larger vessels were braving the sea.

Winds were friendly enough for PAF SRG's Huey 2, a stronger version of the UH-1H helicopter, to push through with the aerial survey following postponement the day before because of the bad weather.

Farther north, some streets in Bulacan were still flooded, though Wednesday's rains brought enough irrigation water for the province's vast farmlands and many fishpens.

There were no more rains but clouds hung low over Pampanga, marking the horizon with a broken white line lower than the scenic peak of Mt. Arayat.

Waist deep

Villages near the Candaba swamp in Pampanga still suffered severe flooding, waist deep in some areas. There, residents used boats to move around, turning the flooded village into a rural Venice. At one basketball court, the water rose to almost a third of the goal post.

Despite the flooding, residents still managed to wave at those on board the chopper surveying the area at an altitude of 400 feet.

PAF's reconnaissance mission around Metro Manila and neighboring provinces was conducted a week after it led a rescue mission in a flooded barangay in Bacolor town.

During that mission, SRG pilots and crew brought to safety some 39 residents trapped in their village amid rising floodwaters. *With reports from Jaymee Gamil, Ephraim Aguilar and Marlon Ramos Inquirer Southern Luzon; and AP*

General warns: Politico key figure in Marine ambush

From page A1

He said he wanted to put the issue of the ambush—in which 10 of the 14 dead Marines were beheaded and mutilated—in the "proper perspective."

The general identified a number of "tactical errors" during the ambush, which apparently did not appear in the official military investigation report on the incident.

He said it was possible the Marine company had been fed the wrong intelligence, leading them to the ambush site.

Setup?

"An ambush that big would have needed at least 500 people, and it's not easy to mobilize that big a number," the general said. "Obviously, the ambush involved great preparation. It could have been a setup."

In such a case, he said, the government investigation should have included the mayor of Al-Barka (formerly Tipo-Tipo). He said the probe should have also untangled the intricate political connections in the province to determine the real reason for the attack.

"It appears that certain politicians in the province are manipulating the AFP to go after their political enemies," he said.

Basilan Rep. Wahab Akbar, the former governor of the province, has denied involvement in the ambush in a privilege speech.

Akbar named four alleged Abu Sayyaf members purportedly behind the beheadings—Umair Indama, Nurhasan Jamiri, Buhari Jamiri and Suaib Kalibon.

Another Moro leader from Basilan told the INQUIRER that Akbar might have omitted mentioning two other persons identified with a political ally.

Anak Mindanao Rep. Mujiv Hataman has filed a resolution seeking a House inquiry into the ambush. He expressed concern over the allegation that Akbar's men were involved.

Another "tactical error" noted by the general was the troops' delayed counteroffensive.

Losing the enemy

"There is no such thing—in tactical parlance—as holding a counterattack 10 days after the initial burst," he said. "You won't find your enemies anymore."

Citing his own experiences in Basilan, he said the enemy often got lost "within a few hours" after an encounter.

"They just buried their firearms and mixed with the crowd. Some entered mosques. So how could we attack them?" he said.

In the July 10 ambush, the "natural" reaction of the Marine leadership was to reinforce the field with more troops, the general said.

He ruled out the option of a pullout, which was supposedly what happened to end the 10-hour gun battle.

"Marines don't operate that way," he said. "They don't withdraw even if it's nighttime. They just pour in more troops. They never retreat. But in the case of the ambush, it was possible that someone called and ordered the Marines to stop the attack."

A big issue in the military investigation of the clash was the supposed problem with radio frequencies encountered by the ground troops and helicopter pilots. The lack of radio communication had purportedly kept the pilots from knowing where to fire.

But the general laughed off the report, saying knowledge of radio frequencies was never an issue in the battlefield.

"The AFP is not being true to the people," he said. *With a report from DJ Yap*

Detained general supports Trillanes claim

By Christine O. Avendaño

A DETAINED FORMER MArine commandant yesterday said he and other officers knew who were behind the "slaughter" of 14 Marines in the July 10 ambush in Al-Barka, Basilan, and were in the process of confirming their information.

Maj. Gen. Renato Miranda made the statement in backing a comrade and fellow detainee, Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, who supposedly had "informants and assets" who substantiated his claim that the Marines were "fed to the enemy" by officials of the administration.

"We have our notion who is responsible for the slaughter of the Marines. We are still validating it," Miranda said in response to questions from the media, which he answered in a handwritten note.

"But all of these will come to light if there will be an honest to goodness investigation—so that the death of those Marines will not have been in vain ... and for the sake of the living who are still willing to offer their lives," he said.

Miranda handed the note, which contained answers to several other questions, to reporters after the adjournment of the general court-martial trying him and 27 other Marine and Special Forces officers for involvement in the purported coup attempt in February 2006.

The hearing was held at Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal.

Trillanes, who is detained for his involvement in the Oakwood mutiny of July 2003, filed a resolution on Tuesday seeking a Senate inquiry into "insider information" that Malacañang officials had a hand in the July 10 ambush.

Esperon's challenge

Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. challenged Miranda to "name names."

"Until then, I will not comment," Esperon told reporters.

On the other hand, he sneered at the claim of Trillanes, a former Navy lieutenant and one of the junior officers who led the Oakwood mutiny in protest of alleged corruption in the government and the military.

"How can he talk of tactical matters? He was never assigned to the field," Esperon said of Trillanes. "Let the Marines talk."

Lt. Col. Ariel Caculitan, Marines spokesperson, said Trillanes should substantiate his allegation.

"From our side, we're very sure that our officers will never [feed our men to the enemy]," Caculitan said.

5 ranking officials

Trillanes himself spoke to reporters after yesterday's hearing of his coup d'etat case in the Makati Regional Trial Court.

Asked about his Senate resolution calling for an investigation of the supposed Palace hand in the July 10 ambush, he said at least "five high-ranking officials" were involved and he had witnesses and evidence to support his allegation.

"We have ways of getting information, witnesses and evidence," the senator said without elaborating.

"I won't be preempted. We will have to wait for the inquiry," he added.

Should nothing come of his resolution, Trillanes said he might have to take the matter directly to the people.

He warned of increasing restiveness among the Marines: "They're disgruntled as it is. They just lost [many of their members]. We don't expect them to have high morale.

"We wouldn't know where the Marines would rechannel their emotions," he said.

In his handwritten note, Miranda said Trillanes "may be correct" in his allegation that Marine troops were fed to the enemy.

"He has his own basis for the claim because of his broad contacts, assets and informants. We are sure that the senator is doing his homework," Miranda said.

Rosales for peace talks; Velarde says offensive justified

From page A1

of Marines last month by the Abu Sayyaf.

Speaking with reporters in Tagaytay City, where he led the inauguration and blessing of the St. John Mary Vianney-Galilee Development and Retreat Center for Priests, Rosales said the government and the MILF should be "sincere" in the peace talks. (The peace talks have been stalled since September 2006.)

"*Nagkakalokohan, eh* (There is no sincerity). Go back to the issues and let's start addressing them," Rosales said when sought for comment on the situation in Sulu.

"One thing is, we will never have peace if we always fight each other," Rosales said.

He said there seemed to be a pervading mistrust between the two parties, which was affecting the fragile peace between them.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. yesterday said the military had enlisted the help of both the MNLF (with whom the government signed a peace accord in 1996) and the MILF in designating areas in Sulu and Basilan that would "distinguish" these two forces from the Abu Sayyaf—and thus allow the troops to strike at their real targets. *(See related stories on Page A2.)*

But Rosales said the government had "sent too much arms," and the rebels had also done things that were not right.

'Right response'

"They have to [talk]. Let's be honest. I'm sure they don't want to kill each other," Rosales said.

But Velarde said the military offensive was "the right response to what [the rebels] did to our soldiers"—a reference to the killing of 14 Marines and the beheading of 10 of them on July 10 in Al-Barka, Basilan.

Last week, the military sustained its biggest casualties when 26 soldiers died in an ambush in Sulu.

"We cannot just take it sitting down; we have to apply force against those criminals without sacrificing the peace process," Velarde said in a phone interview.

He rejected calls, including those from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, for a troop pullout, saying it would "send wrong signals to the enemies" of the state.

He said the military offensive was not directed at the MILF anyway.

Velarde said the government should pursue the peace talks with the MILF to achieve long-term peace and stability in Mindanao. But he said the grant of ancestral domain to the MILF must result from a peace agreement: "I am against giving the territory just to appease the MILF. We should not [grant ancestral domain] under pressure or by force. [The government] should study it very carefully."

It was the issue of ancestral domain that stalled the peace talks.

The MILF wants the inclusion of at least 1,000 villages in a proposed Bangsamoro Juridical Entity (BJE), which will govern the autonomous region. The government says it can let go of only about 600 villages. (It originally said these areas could not be declared part of the BJE without a plebiscite.)

In a statement following the ambush in Sulu, President Macapagal-Arroyo said the government might consider the "pilot implementation" of ancestral land where there would be less resistance among the residents. She did not give specifics.

Ready for harvest

In the towns of Maimbung, Indanan and Parang in Sulu, durian and mangosteen trees are heavy with fruit but nobody's harvesting them.

Residents are afraid to do so "because of the deployment of soldiers," Hadja Jainab Abdulmajid of the Sulu Area Coordinating Center for Disaster told the INQUIRER.

At least 2,723 families or about 11,682 persons have been displaced from 27 barangays in the three towns since gun battles broke out this month.

The death toll includes 27 soldiers and more than 30 Abu Sayyaf bandits and "rogue" MNLF members, according to the AFP.

The entire military force now in Sulu is estimated at about 4,000 men.

Maj. Eugene Batara, spokesperson of the Western Mindanao Command, said two companies of Scout Rangers were the latest addition to the troops there.

But the AFP is not launching an all-out war in Sulu, Maj. Gen. Reuben Rafael said yesterday.

"The operation is confined to some parts of the three towns (Indanan, Maimbung and Parang)," said Rafael, who heads Task Force Comet.

He said that while there was a significant number of soldiers now in Sulu, the military was only strengthening its "civil military operations (CMO)."

"The other features of Oplan Kaunlaran, aside from CMO projects, are the strengthening of dialogues and coordination with local government [units] and communities, and the buildup of intelligence..." he added.

Still, Fatmawati Salapuddin, public relations officer of the Lupah Sug Bangsamoro Women's Association, said the Sulu folk knew better.

Salapuddin said that from experience, the Tausug could tell if war was in the offing—and fear of a looming war was the main reason fruits were being left to rot on the vine.

Part of life

"Fruit harvesting is done once a year. For the Tausug, fruit harvesting is very traditional, it's part of our life," Salapuddin said.

Sulu Gov. Abdusakur Tan sought to explain the importance of the harvest season to the Tausug by saying that the provincial government had declared August and September as the Months of Harvest for Peace.

Smuggled luxury cars smashed; 19 spared

From page A1

WHERE'S THE LAMBORGHINI? A Chevrolet Starcraft Astro van (left) and a Mitsubishi GTO were among the 18 cars demolished at the Naval Supply Depot at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone in Zambales on Thursday. Of the cars that got the ax, only seven were considered luxury vehicles. The Lamborghini, Maserati, Porsches, Audis and Cadillacs were spared. At least for now as their claimants had filed cases in court to recover them. LYN RILLON

was described by Customs Commissioner Napoleon Morales as a "condemnation process."

Finance Secretary Margarito Teves said the show cost the government an estimated P30 million in auction proceeds and P10 million in taxes.

"We want to weigh that with the other aspects associated with the destruction," Teves told reporters.

"We feel that the deterrent effect on smuggling, the benefit that will be generated by our domestic industry, and the signal that we want to convey that we are serious about addressing this smuggling issue will outweigh the initial effect of the loss in revenues," he said.

Spared

However, the Department of Finance, Bureau of Customs (BOC) and the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) spared from destruction other smuggled luxury vehicles such as a Corvette, Lamborghini, Porsches, Audis and Cadillacs they had earlier said they would destroy.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, who had been scheduled to witness the wrecking, skipped the event although she stayed the previous night at the nearby Clark Freeport Zone in Pampanga. The cars were destroyed on the President's order.

Of the 18 cars, only seven were luxury vehicles—a two-door Mitsubishi GTO, three BMW X5, one BMW 35i, one Lincoln Navigator and one Chevrolet Starcraft. The rest were six Toyota Estimas, one Toyota Caldina, two Hyundai Grandeur, one Nissan Serena Vanette and one Mitsubishi VR-II.

Malacañang said the President wanted the demolition shown on nationwide TV to ensure the vehicles were destroyed and to drive the message home that her administration was serious in eradicating smuggling, particularly in free ports.

Conspicuous absence

But Ms Arroyo's conspicuous absence sent mixed signals, leaving her customs and other officials in disarray over the fate of the 18 cars.

List of cars destroyed:

1 Lincoln Navigator
3 BMW X5
1 Mitsubishi GT0
1 Chevrolet Starcraft
1 Toyota Lucida
1 BMW 735i
5 Toyota Emina
2 Hyundai Grandeur
1 Toyota Estima
1 Nissan Serena
1 Mitsubishi Pajero Junior
Total of 18, all without license plates

Teves and Morales arrived first at the SBMA impounding compound at 11 p.m., followed shortly by Undersecretary Antonio Villar, head of the newly created presidential antismuggling group.

Then retired Gen. Jose Calimlim, Task Force Subic chief, showed up, with SBMA Administrator Armand Arreza not far behind. The two are at loggerheads over the administration of the free port, with both camps blaming each other for the rampant smuggling of cars and oil in Subic Bay.

Sensing that he was being left by his lonesome, Villar exited along with his entourage of bodyguards and staff.

After three hours of waiting, Teves, Morales and Villar finally got their act together and ordered the destruction of the vehicles.

"I'd like to apologize for the inconvenience," Teves told reporters. He said the President's absence was "something not clear yet" although it was suggested that "the weather is unfavorable."

Sports cars subject to litigation

Teves defended the government's decision not to destroy the Ferrari, Lambhorgini, Porsche Carrera, Porsche Cayenne and BMW cars, with an average cost of P18 million apiece. Another 14 luxury cars also were spared.

"At the proper time, we will determine that, but first things first, we will have to hurdle the legal processes," said Teves, pointing out that the owners intended to avail themselves of legal processes to recover the flashy cars.

Allegations cropped up yesterday that 12 of the 18 vehicles crushed were mere proxies for the luxury ones, and that the BOC and the presidential antismuggling group headed by Villar had separate lists of vehicles up for destruction yesterday.

Both Villar and Calimlim admitted receiving calls from the private sector, including Gawad Kalinga, to auction off the luxury vehicles instead so that the proceeds could be used for antipoverty programs.

Smugglers join auction

Presidential Management Staff chief Cerge Remonde said the President ordered a stop to the old customs practice of auctioning off smuggled cars since these usually ended up being bought by the smugglers.

Bureau of Customs Subic Collector Marietta Zamoranos said the destroyed cars would be auctioned off as scrap, which an NSD employee estimated would sell for P150,000.

An Inquirer source, who admitted participating in car smuggling at the free port, smirked at the BOC's act, saying the destroyed cars totaled only P4.5 million. The source, who went to the site on Thursday, said some of the cars "looked like garbage."

One of the cars already had a sticker of the Land Transportation Office, indicating it had been processed or used outside the free port.

Congressman wants Porsche

Mandy Eduque, director of the Automobile Association of the Philippines, welcomed yesterday's move, saying it would provide a "disincentive or a deterrent" to smugglers.

Quezon City Rep. Danilo Suarez said he wanted to bid for the Porsche.

"But I don't want to criticize the plan. I don't want the President to get mad at me," he said. *With reports from Tessa Salazar and Norman Bordadora*

No more Diosdado, Eva Macapagal boulevards if House bill passes

From page A1

ter in Malacañang ends her term in 2010.

An international airport in Angeles, Pampanga and a boulevard on reclaimed land at the edge of Manila Bay bear the name of Ms Arroyo's father; a Manila port carries her mother's name, Eva Macapagal.

There also would not have been the Ginintuang Masaganang Ani or the GMA program for farm inputs of the Department of Agriculture in 2004. The project was the source of the now infamous P728-million fertilizer fund scam.

It will also try and obliterate anything stamped with wordings like "Classroom Galing sa Mamamayan Abroad" or any other government project that bears President Macapagal-Arroyo's initials, "GMA."

"Clearly, it is immoral and unethical for any incumbent official to name government properties, services or programs, financed as these are by taxpayers' money, after himself or herself or after his or her immediate relatives," Bayan Muna Rep. Teodoro Casiño said.

Anti-dynasty bill impossible

The militants in the House—Casiño, Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo, Gabriela Representatives Liza Maza and Luzviminda Ilagan and Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran—have filed House Bill No. 2026 banning and penalizing the naming of government property and programs after incumbent officials or their relatives.

"Passing an antidynasty bill is virtually impossible in a Congress dominated by political clans and dynasties. Thus, a compromise measure is being offered to simply ban the naming of public properties after incumbent public officials and their immediate relatives," Casiño said.

"This would, at least, put a stop to one of the most despised practices of political dynasties ... Through this measure, we hope to contribute one little step to the realization of the constitutional ban on political dynasties," he added.

Penalties

Section 3 of the proposed law prohibits the naming of a government property or program with that of an incumbent official's or a relative's full name, professional title and surname, nickname, pseudonym or name on a certificate of candidacy.

The proposed law penalizes such actions with up to P300,000 in fines and disqualification from public office.

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1,737 pass medical board examinations

THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) yesterday announced that 1,737 (65.40 percent) out of 2,656 passed the Physician (Complete and Finals with Prelims) Licensure Examination given by the Board of Medicine in the cities of Manila, Cebu and Davao this month. Four out of 44 passed the Preliminary Examinations.

The members of the Board of Medicine who gave the licensure examinations are Dr. Miguel L. Noche Jr., chair; Dr. Edgardo T. Fernando, Dr. Ricardo D. Fulgencio II, Dr. Restituto C. de Ocampo and Dr. Florentino C. Doblo, members.

The results were released in three working days from the last day of examinations.

Registration for the issuance of Professional Identification Card (ID) and Certificate of Registration will start on Tuesday, Aug. 28 but not late than Sept. 3. Those who will register are required to bring the following—duly accomplished Oath Form or Panunumpa ng Propesyonal, current Community Tax Certificate (cedula), 2 pieces passport size picture (colored with white background and complete nametag), 1 piece 1" x 1" picture (colored with white background and complete nametag), 2 sets of metered documentary stamps, and 1 short brown envelope with name and profession, and to pay the Initial Registration Fee of P600 and Annual Registration Fee of P450 for 2007-2010. Successful examinees should personally register and sign in the Roster of Registered Professionals.

The oath-taking ceremony of the successful examinees will be held before the board on Sunday, Sept. 9, at 1:30 p.m. at the Plenary Hall of the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), Manila.

The top three performing schools (with 100 or more examinees) are as follows:

RANK, SCHOOL, TOTAL NO. OF EXAMINEES, TOTAL NO. PASSED, PERCENTAGE PASSED
1 University of the Philippines - Manila 142 141 99.00 %
2 University of Santo Tomas 327 298 91.00%
3 Far Eastern University - Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation 189 155 82.00%

The successful examinees who garnered the ten (10) highest places are the following:

RANK NAME SCHOOL RATING(%)
1 MA CHRISTINA CEDILLA JOVIDA, OUR LADY OF FATIMA UNIVERSITY-VALENZUELA CITY, 85.92%
2 ANSARIE PEDROSA SALPIN, WEST VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY-LA PAZ, 85.92%
SHERILYN ALVARAN TUAZON, UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS, 85.92%
3 DIANA RIVADELO TAMONDONG-LACHICA, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES-MANILA, 85.75%
4 MARJORIE CO GOLEKOH, UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS, 85.58%
5 ARIES CAESAR PATDU GAVINO, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES-MANILA, 85.50%
6 RONALD ARTUZ LUNA, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES-MANILA, 85.33%
7 JEFFREY PALARCA MENDOZA, UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS, 85.25%
8 LOWE LEBOSADA CHIONG, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES-MANILA, 85.17%
LILY MAE QUEVEDO DACAY, CEBU DOCTORS UNIVERSITY, 85.17%
9 RONALD ALVIN VILLANUEVA LUSTRE, UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST RAMON MAGSAYSAY MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER, 85.08%
10 CARMELA GAN GONZALES, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES-MANILA, 85.00%
RAZEL CARLOS SIRON-GONZALES, ANGELES UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, 85.00%

Roll of Successful Examinees in the PHYSICIAN LICENSURE EXAMINATION held in AUGUST 2007. Released on AUGUST 15, 2007

Seq. No. Name
1 ABAD, APRIL JO ALAGAD
2 ABAD, EXODUS CAAMPUED
3 ABAD, MARC DOMINI ALAGAD
4 ABADILLA, DENNIS PAOLO HONDRADE
5 ABADILLA, JANICE MAERINA
6 ABADILLA, LOWELLA PIZARRA
7 ABAJA, LAARNI AMBER ORMEO
8 ABALAJON, KAREN CINDEE JAVIER
9 ABALAJON, MARK JOSEPH JAVIER
10 ABALOS, DENNIS AGOSTO
11 ABANTAS, SHARIMAH TAWAND
12 ABAPO, CYRIL MANAYON
13 ABARRIENTOS, JOY KHU
14 ABAYA, LOUELLA IVELLA CORONADO
15 ABELLA, JONAS CARL SIO
16 ABELLO, JASON ECHAVEZ
17 ABELLON, RUPERTO III LAZO
18 ABESAMIS, ERLYN NABOR
19 ABITANG, MARY JOVETTE TORRECHILLA
20 ABRAGAN, HANNA JINKY CALUBIRAN
21 ABRATIQUE, JEREMIE MARIE MONTENEGRO
22 ABRATIQUE, RIZZA CARMELETTE JONSON
23 ABUAN, ROCHELLE GALAPIA
24 ABUBACAR, EZNAIRAH SARUANG
25 ABUEG, RONALDO JOSEPH
26 ACERON, JENNIFER TIBERIO
27 ACHARON, LEOVINO SANTOS
28 ACIO, LOVETTE VISITACION
29 ACOSTA, ADELINA CAGURANGAN
30 ACOSTA, HANNAH ANGELA DE LEON
31 ADAMOS, EMMYLOU LISING
32 ADAN, KRISTINE IVY DE CASTRO
33 AFRICA, BRIAN LO
34 AGANA, MARK ANTHONY ESTORQUE
35 AGAPITO, ROMMEL JORGE AGAPITO
36 AGAS, TERESITA CABERO
37 AGOJO, SHERRYL MONDELO
38 AGRAMON, RYAN ESPIEL
39 AGRAVID, SHERWIN ENRIQUEZ
40 AGUILAR, ANTHONY HARVEY ISABELO
41 AGUILAR, TIMOTHY JOHN BASALO
42 AGUILING, MARK DEAN TORRES
43 AGUINALDO, KIMBERLEY PASCUA
44 AGUSTIN, AVELINO JR AGULAN
45 AGUSTIN, HONEYLET STA MARIA
46 AGUSTIN, MARIA CONCEPCION CHUA
47 AGUSTIN, MICHELLE PAYAK
48 AGUSTINO, FAITH SOLANO
49 AIROSO, ZENAIDA SABINAY
50 ALA, SORAYA DIMAAND
51 ALAMANI, JEFFERSON AVILLANOSA
52 ALAMIN, JANITH LEGION
53 ALARCON, GUIA II TORREDA
54 ALAS, QUENNY MICHELLE DYAN APAT
55 ALAUYA, SHARMILA ARANAS
56 ALBUERA, LEONARDA CASTRO
57 ALCAZAREN, JOSE CARLOS SAMANIEGO
58 ALCEDO, GLENN PAUL MAAGMA
59 ALDEGUER, YLAINE ROSE TUPAS
60 ALEJO, KARLO PAOLO LITAO
61 ALFECHE, JANICE BACLAYON
62 ALFECHE, JOESALIN III RICARDO
63 ALFEREZ, BRENDA MAE BORRES
64 ALFEROS, MARY ELLEN LOVE SUALOG
65 ALFONSO, RODA ALVAREZ
66 ALIMPOLO, SHERRYL JENN DE GUZMAN
67 ALIPAT, JANDRE JOMAR AMARRA
68 ALMACHAR, MARIFEL GERTRUDE AZCUETA
69 ALMAGRO-BAUTISTA, ESTANISLA PERNITA MERCADO
70 ALMARIA, MARIE JOSEPHINE CONIFEDO GUANLAO
71 ALMELOR, LORRAINE GRACE BUENASEDA
72 ALOC, JEAN CARLA SALVA
73 ALOLOD, MARIA KRISTINA LOPE
74 ALON-ALON, KATRINA FUENTES
75 ALORRO, EMMY LOU JOYA
76 ALSOL, MONA LISSA MALLARE
77 ALVARINA, CHICANEE MACALALAD
78 AMAN, MARIA DHAHRANI MARTINEZ
79 AMARGA, ANN MARGARETTE GUIMARY
80 AMEN-AMEN, DANILO JR BONTANON
81 AMIL, MOHAMMAD ALI SULAIK
82 AMON, ARCH AARON PULONGBARIT
83 AMPONIN, MARK OLIVER-CHRISTIAN SEBASTIAN EMPERADO
84 ANCHETA, KAROLLE TABLAC
85 ANDAL, ANGELICA CRUZ
86 ANDRADE, CHANDLER ESTAÑERO
87 ANDRADE, LENNIE VILLARUBIA
88 ANERDIS, JOHNA LOU DABUCO
89 ANG, AIMEE SIA
90 ANG, KENNARD SY
91 ANGELES, JAUREGUI CUNTAPAY
92 ANGELES, JORIZ MALIG
93 ANGELES, MARY ANNE GONZALES
94 ANGWAY, VANESSA BORJA
95 ANIBAN, JOHN-CHRISTIAN SABAS LAGBAO
96 ANORE, APRIL ROSE PEÑAFIEL
97 ANSELMO, VAL NORBERT SULLANO
98 ANSON, MA LOURDES MATEUM
99 ANTIGUA, JULES PATRICK CABAHUG
100 ANTONIO, SUZETTE LUCIELLE BLANCO
101 APARRI, JANNA MAIA ERGUIZA
102 APILAR, MARICEL DIONG
103 APOSTOL, ARCHIE ESCOVIDAL
104 APOSTOL, KRISTIENNE ORONCE
105 AQUINO, JENNIFER DE MESA
106 AQUINO, MARIO LIM
107 ARABIA, MARIA ESPERANZA DIAZ
108 ARABIA, QUEEN MONA LISA TESORO
109 ARAKAMA, MEL-HATRA ISMAEL
110 ARANAS, REESHA MAY PONCE
111 ARANETA, KAREN ANN PENUELA
112 ARANETA, MARIELLA MACRINA TIANSAY
113 ARBIZO, MARK DAVID LIGSAY
114 ARCALA, CHRISTINE TENEFRANCIA
115 ARCIAGA, GABRIEL JOSEPH SAAVEDRA
116 ARCINUE, JOHN ANTHONY RAMOS
117 ARELLANO, ERROL ROY LUCAS
118 ARELLANO, RACHEL NITO
119 ARENAS, CARLITO JR GAVIOLA
120 AREVALO, JOSEPH PATRICK VASQUEZ
121 ARGUELLES, AILEEN MAY PINEDA
122 ARIAS, CRIZELLE CAYABYAB
123 ARMAS, ANA MARIE CARIDO
124 ARONG, ALWEN MENDOZA
125 ARQUERO, OLIVER LORIEGA
126 ARRIESGADO, ANNA LISSA MANUEL
127 ARROYO, JOSEPHINE LLORENTE
128 ARTATES, ANNE MARGAUX VELASCO
129 ARVESU, MICHAEL SAN MATEO
130 ARZADON, JUSTINE MARI ESPANTO
131 ASIROT, RECHELLE LOZANO
132 ASPIRAS, GUILVIC TIRSO SOMINTAC
133 ASTILLA, MAY CHELLE AGUILAR
134 ASUNCION, ELEONOR BALINAS
135 ASUNCION, MAY HAQUILA
136 ASUNCION, WENDELL SUMIQUIAB
137 ASUQUE, JOANNE DENISE IBAÑEZ
138 ATIENZA, CIELO ANGELA ROSALES
139 AUJERO, FREDERICK CARRILLO
140 AURELLADO, MARION PRISCILLA BALMARES
141 AUSTRIA-PABLO, MARIA CHRISTINA REYES
142 AVECILLA, JOYCE JIMENA
143 AVENTURADO, CROMWELL RABOY
144 AVENTURADO, MARJORIE CUECO
145 AVILA, JESS TABUGOL
146 AVILA, KRISTEN MAE BAUTISTA
147 AVILA, RALPHWALDO VASQUEZ
148 AVILES, ELMER MANANGAN
149 AVILLA, IVY ROM
150 AYCO, MARY JANE DABUCO
151 AZURIN, EDELSA SANTOS
152 BACANI, MARIA ROWENA PINEDA
153 BACHO, MARIA SOCORRO CATHERINE BEBING
154 BACILES, NOEMI CAMACHO
155 BACORRO, VANESSA RAMOS
156 BACSA, EDWARD SOTERIO
157 BACUS, JIM EDWARD DELFIN
158 BADANDO, HANA QUIAMBAO
159 BADDIRI, ABUBAKAR TAPSIRIL
160 BADENAS, ERMIE ANN VILLONO
161 BAGSIC, JOY DULU
162 BAILE, PATRICIA ANNA APOSTOL
163 BAJANDI, KRISTINE JOY CORPUZ
164 BAJARIAS, JUDE ALIVIO
165 BALA, MISHELLE VONNABIE OLARTE
166 BALADJAY, HEINE MARAMTO
167 BALBIRAN, APPLE ALMONIA
168 BALDADO, MA BRENDA OPADA
169 BALDEVARONA, JEWEL LABORDO
170 BALIGUAS, ROSELYN CORDERO
171 BALINTEC, JOCELYN PURUGGANAN
172 BALLO-ALLO, EPHRAIM HERMOSURA
173 BALOY, REGINA GERALDINE GUANLAO
174 BALUYOT, MELISSA MAE POBRE
175 BANAL, KATHERINE TOLENTINO
176 BANAWA, RAQUEL LAURENTE
177 BANAYAG, PATROCINIO JR IDPALINA
178 BANAYAT, RIKKA ASUNCION
179 BANCORO, GINO OLIVER MERCADO
180 BANDOY, CHRISTOPHER RONALD BADE
181 BANGCAYA, MARK NELCON SAING
182 BANGI, ELMER SUMAJIT
183 BANIQUED, CATHERINE CALUGAY
184 BANIQUED, EDWIN JR VELUZ
185 BANTING, LIA MAY MAMARIL
186 BANZON, JACQUELINE ESPINO
187 BARBON, CECILE ENAO
188 BARSAGA, FAITH BALMES
189 BARTOLOME, IVY JEAN BARBOSA
190 BASILLA, JIKEN PILA
191 BASSIG, DEANNA ALFONSO
192 BATACLAO, ROSEMARIE TUBAN
193 BATAGA, NOE DIAZ
194 BATHAN, JOSEPH PATRICK BILBERD MAGPANTAY
195 BATUCAN, MARLO VIR CAL
196 BAUNDING, RUCHIEBELLE SANTIAGO
197 BAUTISTA, ALEXIS ENOZA
198 BAUTISTA, ALMAMYR DONGON
199 BAUTISTA, BELLA EMIKO SHIBAKO
200 BAUTISTA, GENE MAGAT
201 BAUTISTA, JELLENA FAYE CERIN
202 BAUTISTA, JOANNE NAVARRA
203 BAUTISTA, KAYLEEN YU
204 BAUTISTA, MARIA DONNA ANCHELIE CHUA
205 BAUTISTA, RANEIL JOSEPH FERRER
206 BAYOCOT, MARICEL TORREGOSA
207 BAÑES, CHARLOTTE VILLAS
208 BAÑEZ, RYAN JULIUS ANGELES
209 BEBE, CINDERELLA DIANNE VILLANUEVA
210 BEDONIA, FLORIANNE LEDESMA
211 BEJASA, LORHEANI MALABANAN
212 BELEN, PAULO ENRICO PAGDANGANAN
213 BELUSO, MICHAEL VIC GOMEZ
214 BENAVIDEZ, JOEL BACLIG
215 BENGO, MARIA EMILIA CABAÑA
216 BERGADO, MEYZADEL LIBARIOS
217 BERGONIA, EVELYN SORIANO
218 BERMEJO, AIMEE TZEITEL TORTOLA
219 BERMEJO, MA CECILIA ASUNCION VENUS
220 BERMUDEZ, APRIL ANN AGUILAR
221 BERMUDEZ, RUBY ANN VELASQUEZ
222 BERNABE, RIZALDY REYES
223 BERNAL, DIANA ELAINE LAGRISOLA
224 BERNAL, RONALD CHRISTIAN HALILI
225 BERNAL, RV CELESTE BONTIAGO
226 BERNARDO, FRITZ RINALDI DE ASIS
227 BERNARDO, MARIA LOURDES RODRIGUEZ
228 BERNAS, FRANCES INA MACALAGUING
229 BESABELLA, JEANETTE MANDIN
230 BESARINO, LUDYLENE ALCANTARA
231 BETITO, MICHELLE DAVID
232 BETONIO, MARIA CHRISTINA BAMBAO
233 BIAOCO, MA DESIREE GENTICA
234 BILLOD, JIMMY AWISAN
235 BLANCO, JOSEPHINE ROSE FERNANDEZ
236 BLAS, MARIA REGINA LOPEZ
237 BOADO, CHERYL AGNES INIT
238 BOCO, MARIA CECILIA CAMPO
239 BOGADOR, REMELYN JOY EUDELA
240 BOGNOT, RENITO JR DE LEON
241 BOMEDIANO, RHEA CIMAFRANCA
242 BONIFACIO, JO FAMA
243 BONIQUIT, MARK ANTHONY DATU
244 BONODE, MARYENKA MAGRACIA
245 BONTO, JEAN BRILATA
246 BONUS, ROSALIA BELEN FERNANDEZ
247 BORDON, AVIGAIL VARGAS
248 BORGONIA, RONNIE FRANCISCO
249 BORLONGAN, JOHN PAUL DE GUZMAN
250 BORREO, MAE WILENROSE FERNANDEZ
251 BOSCH, MARLIES ANGELICA RAMIREZ
252 BRAVO, MAURO III CORPUZ
253 BRAVO, MICHAEL BAQUE
254 BRAVO, ROBERT CHRISTIAN CARANDANG
255 BRIONES, JOSE MARTIN DIOT
256 BRIONES, LEAH PAULA MOLINA
257 BRUA, SHIELAMAR LLAGAS
258 BRUAN, MAY BARIBAD
259 BRUCAL, JENNIFER VILLANUEVA
260 BRUTO, KAREN AVENIDO
261 BRUZON, ALIE HOPE DUMALE
262 BUAN, LEONARDO II HENSON
263 BUELA, IAN LOBETE
264 BUENA, SHERYLL TUMALIUAN
265 BUENAVENTURA, FAITH ANNE VILLACORTA
266 BUENAVENTURA, PAOLO FERNANDEZ
267 BUENAVISTA, SHEILA ANN TORRES
268 BUENCONSEJO, KRISTINE SIACOR
269 BUGAOAN, CARYL QUEEN RESULTAY
270 BUHAT, DONNA MAE LYN VINOYA
271 BULANDUS, ROSETTEE CRISTALES
272 BULATAO, JACKIELYN PERALTA
273 BUNDA, ANN LEAH BELEN
274 BUSTOS, WARREN SANCHEZ
275 BUTAY, ANA FRANCES CRUZ
276 BUZON, ROXANNE MUMPAR
277 CABAGUE, MELANIE MORALEDA
278 CABALLERO, EDWARD ALEXIS RODAS
279 CABANELA, ERMIN FAVILA
280 CABISON, LOURDES NENA ADABAN
281 CABRAL, ALLAN DIOSO
282 CABRAL, MARIA DEMMA ILAGAN
283 CABREROS, MICHELLE BERSAMIN
284 CABRILLOS, MARIELLE ANNE ASCAÑO
285 CACACHO, ARTHUR CACACHO
286 CADAY, CHEYNEY SALA
287 CADELINA, ROSCEL APRIL SEVERINO
288 CAGURANGAN, MARIE ROSE DARAUAY
289 CALA, NOREEN INES
290 CALALO, ADORMEO CUETO
291 CALAMBA, HAZEAHL CHRIS AGUHOB
292 CALAVERA, TEJANE VERZO
293 CALAYCAY, ANTHONY MANAOIS
294 CALIMAG, VANESSA LLOPIS
295 CALIMLIM, KHRISTINE JOY MERCADO
296 CALIMON, PAOLO CONRAD CINCO
297 CALINGASAN, PAMELA ROALES
298 CALIWAGAN, JEAN JASMINE NG
299 CALLANGA, CHARMAINE KATE DECANO
300 CALOLOT, CHRISTINE AGTON
301 CAMALONGAY, EDUARDO JR DE ASIS
302 CAMAROTE, CHARISSE CADAG
303 CAMMAYO-BATTUNG, REBECCA BALANGON
304 CAMPOS, PAOLO AUGUSTO URTOLA
305 CANAPE, FRANCIS MAY ALILA
306 CANAY, ROSARY MAY BARRERA
307 CANCINO, CHRISTOPHER ALIPIO
308 CANDADO, GRACE ANDIADO
309 CANDAO, MUHAMMAD USMAN
310 CANGCO, NOE MANICDAO
311 CANLAS, KATRINA MACALINTAL
312 CANLAS, NOAH PERFECTO
313 CANLAS, RICHELDA CASTILLO
314 CANOSA, LOUIE PHIL GAMAN
315 CAPA, MAHARLIKA IGNACIO
316 CAPILI, ADORA DEL ROSARIO
317 CAPINO, ANDREA JATICO
318 CAPISTRANO, ROWENA SABADO
319 CAPULONG, MA CHELO YADAO
320 CARAM, RADCIBEL ESTANDARTE
321 CARANDANG, MA KATRINA DEVEZA
322 CARANDANG, MINDSAY LIMBO
323 CARBON, CHRISTINE LAUREA
324 CARBONELL, CORLA BLAISE ESPINO
325 CARBONELL, DENNIS JOSE SIENES
326 CARBONELL, WILSON ESPIRITU
327 CARIAGA, ALDO MAR BORDADOR
328 CARITOS, MARIA KATRINA HERMOSO
329 CARLOS, ARMI DIANNE CASTILLO
330 CARLOS, CHRISTINE CONSTANTINO
331 CARMONA, EMEE MARIE GRIJALVO
332 CARPIO, DANIEL VALDEMAR VILLAMIL
333 CARPIO, JUAN-FELIPE ZALAZAR
334 CARRASCO, JENNY PEARL CUAJAO
335 CARREON, ANNA KATRINA MENESES
336 CARREON, CHRYSTALLE KATTE TACORDA
337 CARREON, DOROTHY DE LAZO
338 CARREON, JANETH AGATEP
339 CARRERA, PERLINEH MELENDEZ
340 CARTAGO, REINALYN SANTOS
341 CASAMAYOR, CHRISTIAN NACAR
342 CASANOVA, DIANNE CHARLOTTE DE CHAVEZ
343 CASINO, ALETHEIA ABIGAIL BOJO
344 CASIS, ROXANNE JAEN
345 CASTAÑEDA, MAY ANNE MANGAT
346 CASTILLANO, ROEM FERNANDEZ
347 CASTILLO, ALEXANDER BALATBAT
348 CASTILLO, JEFFREY TUNGOL
349 CASTILLO, LOVELLA MARINA SAVELLA
350 CASTILLO, RAFAEL JR YGPURIA
351 CASTILLO-ROSAL, ARLEEN GRACE REDONA
352 CASTRO, HANICARL YUSICO
353 CASTRO, JEAN ABIGAILE ROMERO
354 CASTRO, ROD TAMONDONG
355 CASTRONUEVO, KRISTINE MARIE CABRERA
356 CASURAO, AMITY BASCO
357 CATALYA, MARY JOAN KRISTINE DE LA CRUZ
358 CATAMBAY, NIÑO CUSTODIO
359 CATBAGAN, GRETCHEN ROSARIO DE GUZMAN
360 CATBAGAN, NOWELL BENEDICT COBARDO
361 CAUNTAY, RODESIA DE VILLA
362 CAUSAREN, RICHELL ASPURIA
363 CAYABYAB, MIRASOL DORIA
364 CAYTON, INA CHRISTINE ANGELES
365 CAÑETE, MINERVA GABIOTA
366 CAÑETE, SHERRY JOANNE LAVADOR
367 CAÑONES, ARLYN RETAGA
368 CEDICOL, SAYID CALIENTA
369 CEJAR, GRACE DENIS
370 CEJAR, ROMMEL MAQUIRAN
371 CELESTINO, JOEL SAN JOSE
372 CELESTINO, MILA ANNE PARAISO
373 CELIS-AGRAVID, PASCHENELLE DEL BARRIO
374 CELIZ, CLAIRE ANN BONIFACIO
375 CELOCIA, ANNELY JANE RED
376 CERCADO, NESS JANINE LIRA
377 CEREZO, RICHARD DEXTER AMBROSIO
378 CERILLES, MICHELLE ANN CASTRO
379 CERVILLON, GLENDALYN ALASCO
380 CHACON, ERIC NAVALEZA
381 CHAN, GRACE GAYON
382 CHAN, PAULINE MAY HUFANA
383 CHAN, REIZAN LOOD
384 CHAN, TESSIE CHAN
385 CHANCO, ANGELICA MARIE MALOLES
386 CHAO, DENISE POLLY GAN
387 CHAVEZ, ROBERT ALVARO
388 CHENG, SHERI ANN TAN
389 CHIN, HEDDA EASTER GERALI
390 CHIN, JUDE ANLY TUGBANG
391 CHING, RICA CHONG
392 CHIO, MITZI GARCIA
393 CHIONG, LOWE LEBOSADA
394 CHIONG, MARIE HYACINTH GUTIERREZ
395 CHIU, ANNA LIZA ARAMBULO
396 CHIU, JAN MEL BURGO SORIANO
397 CHIU, ROLAND VICTOR PALMA GIL
398 CHU, CHRISTINE GISEL WEE
399 CHU, MICHAEL ANGELO VILLANUEVA
400 CHUA, ANNETTE GISELE YU
401 CHUA, IAN LEVY CO SAN
402 CHUA, JACQUELINE SIOJO
403 CHUA, LEILANI TING
404 CHUA, LESLIE ANNE KO
405 CHUA, LESTER CHUA
406 CHUA, MARK RYAN CARAG
407 CHUA, SHIRLEY DEPANTE
408 CHUNG, CATHERINE AGAS
409 CIELO, AILEEN GRACE DANTOC
410 CINCHEZ, MA CHRISTIE MANGAPIS
411 CINCO, KAREN KRISTI JARDIN
412 CLAUDIO, SOMIETHEILA MASAJO
413 CLAVERIA, RONALD ALLAN AGUSTIN
414 CLEMENTE, CHERIE GALLA
415 CLEMENTE, JULIE ANN ENCARNACION LAFORTEZA
416 CLEMOR, MARICHELLE REYES
417 CO, CHERRY ANN BONIAO
418 CO, VERONICA CAROLINE LIM
419 CODNITA, KAREN CAMITE
420 COLAO, ARMAN AUGUSTO
421 COLIAMCO, JOSEPHINE BALBASTRO
422 COLLADO, FAREED MOSES SEGUNDO
423 COLLO, DOROTHY JOY ORTANEZ
424 COMENDADOR, MAE FELY FLORDELIZA DASALLA
425 COMPUESTO, JAMELA LYNN OÑAS
426 CONCEPCION, DIOSDADO DAVID
427 CONCEPCION, MARIE EUGENIE RONQUILLO
428 CONCINA, VANESSA ANNE AGPAOA
429 COO, CAROL CLAIR LACDAN
430 CORDOVA, MARIE PATRICIA SALES
431 CORDOVEZ, REY ADAM BETOYA
432 CORNELIO, ELEANOR JOY LEYVA
433 CORNELIO, REAH MANGOBA
434 CORONEL, MARY CLARE CARMELLE FABRA
435 CORPUS, KRISTINE DIAZ
436 CORPUZ, GERALDINE SIXTO
437 CORPUZ, HAZEL ASEO
438 CORPUZ, RICARDO GREGORIO III CASTOR
439 CORRAL, LORD BYRON CU
440 CORREA, TRISHALYN MAE MUÑOZ
441 CORTEZ, GREGORIO III BATAC
442 CORTEZ, JOSEPH BAUTISTA
443 CORTEZ, RONNEL LOYOLA
444 CORTEZ, SHARON MENDIOLA
445 COSCA, KATHERINE ZUNIGA
446 CRESENCIO, JAY VINCENT JAUCIAN
447 CRISOSTOMO, REGINA ISABEL CABILADAS
448 CRUEL, LUCIO GEORGE SY
449 CRUZ, ABRAHAM DANIEL CAMPO
450 CRUZ, AISSA KRISTINE TAYO
451 CRUZ, GALILEO ALEXANDER NOGOY
452 CRUZ, GENEVIEVE VERGEL CANLAS
453 CRUZ, GLADYS IVY MADERAZO
454 CRUZ, MARIA REGINA MENCIAS
455 CRUZ, MARIA THERESA ISIDRO
456 CRUZ, MICHELLE ANGELICA BAMBA
457 CRUZ, REGINALD AGCAOILI
458 CRUZ, REU ARMAN SIEGA
459 CRUZ, ROSANNE BARRACA
460 CUA, ANNA MELISSA VALDEMORO
461 CUA, LESLEY ANNE DOMINIQUE SATOR
462 CUELLO, MARIA CONCEPCION PANDANAN
463 CUENCO-BANSIL, EVELYNN AYSON
464 CUEVAS, MARK ANTHONY MACTAL
465 CUIZON, JANISE LAURON
466 CUIZON, LUISA CECILIA LOZANO
467 CUNDANGAN, MELISSA ROQUE
468 CUSI, ANNA CHRISTINA SOCORRO VALLARTA
469 CUYA, LEZETTE CUEVA
470 DACANAY, JESSAMINE CACABELOS
471 DACAY, LILY MAE QUEVEDO
472 DADUA, MELIZA MARCIAL
473 DAGDAG, MICHELLE MUÑOZ
474 DAGDAGAN, DIONA PANGAN
475 DAGOC, BREN FELIAS
476 DAGURO, JOLAD ORRERA
477 DALOG, APRIL DALOME YAWAN
478 DALUZ, KARINA JOSE
479 DAMIAN, ALLAN MICHAEL VERTUDEZ
480 DAMPIL, OLIVER ALLAN CASTILLO
481 DANGAZO, SHEILA LEGASPI
482 DAROY, SHERWIN KHO
483 DATAYLO, KRISTIAN YEBAN
484 DATUIN, LEAH MUYANO
485 DAVID, CHERYL GALEOS
486 DAVID, DARWIN BARCELA
487 DAVID, DINAH DE LEON
488 DAW-AS, SAMUEL JR PADCAYAN
489 DAYAO, MELITA LAVA
490 DE ASIS, HAZEL VALLEJOS
491 DE CASTRO, CRISTINA THERESE HERNAEZ
492 DE CASTRO, ODETTE ANGELYN GARCIA
493 DE GUZMAN, JANICE ABUGAN
494 DE GUZMAN, MA THERESA MORALES
495 DE GUZMAN, MARK SANTOS
496 DE GUZMAN, MINAROSA AQUINO
497 DE GUZMAN, PATRICK GERARD DELOS SANTOS
498 DE GUZMAN, SHEILAMAR MEJIA
499 DE GUZMAN, THERESE TONIROSE AQUINO
500 DE JESUS, CHARISMA GONZALES
501 DE JESUS, DIANA CHRISTY GUTIERREZ
502 DE JESUS, MARRISTEIN JOY TEC
503 DE JESUS, RAOUL DENNIS MORTEL
504 DE LA CRUZ, ALDRIN MEJIA
505 DE LA CRUZ, ANN JELYNNE SANTOS
506 DE LA CRUZ, DIOMEL MARASIGAN
507 DE LA CRUZ, JAMES IAN BALTAZAR
508 DE LA CRUZ, VIBERLYN DOMINGO
509 DE LEON, ANNALEE LULU
510 DE LEON, JEFFERSON PACHECO
511 DE LEON, KRISTOPHER DE PAZ
512 DE LIMA, AVELINO JAN REDILLAS
513 DE LOS SANTOS, ANATOLY MANDURIAO
514 DE MESA, CHRISTIAN VILLAFRANCA
515 DE MESA, ROGEL WARREN IGNACIO
516 DE OCAMPO, ROSELLE DIMAANO
517 DE RAMOS, DIAL MACALALAG
518 DE VERA, ROSELYN CANCINO
519 DE VIVAR, JOSE JR MACANAS
520 DE YAO, JOCELYN TORRES
521 DECENA, JOHANNA CORRAL
522 DEGAL, EMMANUEL SAZON
523 DEL CASTILLO, MARK ANTHONY NIEVA
524 DEL MORAL, WARREN ARAGON
525 DEL MUNDO, TIMOTHY JOSEPH VILLAFUERTE
526 DEL RIO, JUAN JR MENDOZA
527 DEL ROSARIO, CHRISTINE ROSE PAED
528 DEL ROSARIO, ODESSA CRUZ
529 DELA CRUZ, ANTON MICAEL KATIGBAK
530 DELA CRUZ, CARLA LINGAN
531 DELA CRUZ, ELLA MARIE PASCUAL
532 DELA CRUZ, JUAN MIGUEL AFABLE
533 DELA CRUZ-NONATO, JOSELYN UDARBE
534 DELA PAZ, MAY ANNE SALVADOR
535 DELA PEÑA, ARLYN TORRES
536 DELGADO, JOHN SAMONTE
537 DELOS SANTOS, ELAINE RUTH PULIDO
538 DELOS SANTOS, JEFFREY SIBULO
539 DELOS SANTOS, JOHN PAUL RILLO
540 DELOS SANTOS, JUAN PAOLO DE LEON
541 DEMA-ALA, GRETEL GENERILLO
542 DEMEGILLO, MAY GLOR BALINTONGOG
543 DEMETILLO, EUNICE PERALTA
544 DEMO-OS, MARJURIE BAITO
545 DEPAYNOS, TERRENCE CLYDE HAFALLA
546 DETALLA, NORWIN ARMILLA
547 DETUBIO, MARIA CARMELA AGLUGUB
548 DIAMANTE, OLIVER PIMENTEL
549 DIAZ, ORIEL JR PEREZ
550 DIAZ, REI PAOLO LAYON
551 DICHOSO, CATHERINE MENDOZA
552 DIEGO, JERVICK CUE
553 DIESTO, CONNIE JANE CHIO
554 DIMAAPI, IRENE ENRIQUEZ
555 DIMAPINDAN, MARGARETTE SAN JOSE
556 DIMAUNAHAN, DEODAR QUINTO
557 DITANGCO, ABRAHAM PAGIBIGAN
558 DIVINAGRACIA, ALEXIS YAUN
559 DIZON, DIANA JOY ANCHETA
560 DIZON, DIANAH LYNN DE CASTRO
561 DIZON, MARIA CIELO RUIZ
562 DIZON, MARIA LEAH IGNAS
563 DIZON, MICHAEL BARRETTO
564 DOCTOR, JACQUELINE EUSEBIO
565 DOGMA, MA CZARINA AFRICANO
566 DOGOLDOGOL, MARY RUSCEL AGUILAR
567 DOMINGO, ALOYSIUS ROMERO
568 DOMINGO, DONNA AILYNNE SALOMON
569 DOMINGO, JOHN FREDERICK CURITANA
570 DOMINGO, KRISTINE PASCUA
571 DOMINGO, MINNETTE APOSTOL
572 DOMINGUEZ, JOANNA GISELLE ALAGAR
573 DONAN, GWENDOLYN DINOPOL
574 DONATO, MARIA THERESA FORMOSO
575 DONES, ROMER ADAMA
576 DONES, ROSA ANGELA STA ANA
577 DONSEN, MARIE ANN CHUA
578 DORIA, MELANIE JOY CAGADAN
579 DUBLAS, MARIVIC PABATANG
580 DUCONG, ERIC HIMMIWAT
581 DULAY, RACHEL HAZEL TULIAO
582 DULDOCO, SHAHRIR BAJUNAID
583 DUMAGAY, TERESITA ELLARDA
584 DUMAMA, SHANA RIZZA BIRUAR
585 DUMANDAN, MIRIAM CHAVEZ
586 DUMLAO, DOROTHY ANNE DOMINGO
587 DUMLAO, JHOETTE MAGAWAY
588 DUNGCA, ANNA MURIELLE BULATAO
589 DUNGCA, JENNIFER PORTACIO
590 DURBAN, CLAIRE MARIE CAMACHO
591 DURENS, MARY ROSE TALENS
592 DY, JEANNE BARBARA SIA
593 DY, JENNIFER AUSTRIA
594 EBALLE, CHYSSA AGNELLI FATALLA
595 EBREO, MARK BENEDICT PAAT
596 ECAL, DEN JR DINO
597 ECHEVARRIA, JEFFREY MALLARI
598 ECHIN, VINCENT GEALOGO
599 EDULAN, MAEH SHARGELYN LOMAAD
600 EDUVAS, AILEEN MESINA
601 ELAGIO, RICARDO JR CUNANAN
602 ELEPANO, RONALDO III GARCIA
603 ELIZALDE, SALTER JOSEPH BURGOS
604 ELLOSO, MATTHEW LICERALDE
605 ELNASIN, DOROTHY MAE DUALLO
606 ELUMBA, FRANCISCO RUFINO ADRIANO POSADAS
607 ENCILA, VIENNA ILAN
608 ENGADA, MARY JUNE RAMIREZ
609 ENRIQUEZ, EVIECARR BEJOSANO
610 EPISCOPE, ALDRIN PULIDO
611 ERASMO, KRISTINA CORDERO
612 ERFE, MARIE CRISEL BATTAD
613 ERMITA, KENT PRECONCILLO
614 ERO, LYZEIL PATULA
615 EROLES, ABIGAIL MANALASTAS
616 ESCALONA, MYLEEN LEAÑO
617 ESCLARES, MICHELLE SHARON BASNILLO
618 ESMABE, JOYCE HALILI
619 ESPELETA, GERARD PAUL RITO
620 ESPINA, RON ACE CABUCOS
621 ESPINO, LYNETTE VILLAMIN
622 ESPINO, PIA DAPHNE GRAGEDA
623 ESPINO-DOULIO, ETHEL JOYCE JUACHON
624 ESPINOSA, JOHNSEL CABILES
625 ESPIRITU, EVANGELYN GARCIA
626 ESPIRITU, JORDAN VILLANUEVA
627 ESPIRITU, MARNIE ANN GOZUM
628 ESPOSO, LEAH ANNE RAMA
629 ESTACIO, MARIA KATRINA MACAHILIG
630 ESTACIO, MARIA KATRINA ANN SANTOS
631 ESTANISLAO, FRANCISCO JR NINI
632 ESTANISLAO, JOCHRYS IGMEN
633 ESTEBAN, KATHLYN GENEVIEVE FRAN
634 ESTEVEZ, ELIZABETH VICTORIA DEL ROSARIO
635 ESTOLATAN, MICHELLE SARMIENTO
636 ESTRELLA, THEODREX HERNANDEZ
637 ESTRELLANES, JOHN STEPHEN SANTANDER
638 ESTRELLAS, OLGA YNZON
639 EUGENIO, RYAN JOHN ADATO
640 EUSEBIO, ARTEMUS FANDINO
641 EVANGELISTA, BRYAN GA-AN
642 EVARISTO, ANNABELLE ESPIRITU
643 FABIAN, BETHZAIDA RACHEL SAPUTIL
644 FACELO, KRISTINA RAYMUNDO
645 FAJARDO, AURELIO III SEBANDAL
646 FAMADICO, JUSTINE TAN
647 FANDIÑO, SHERYL CALMA
648 FANG, QUEENIEVIC NATHALIE QUE
649 FAROL, BRYAN ANTHONY GASCON
650 FAUSTINO, KAREN MASBANG
651 FAVILA, ARNALDO JR SONGCAYAON
652 FEDERE, RAYMOND ALANZALON
653 FELICIANO, CAROLINE IBE
654 FERIDO, CHERIE FLOR RAGASA
655 FERNANDEZ, ARVISMINDA LUZ GARROTE
656 FERNANDEZ, ESTILA GALAMPANAO
657 FERNANDEZ, FRANCIS CHARLES LAZO
658 FERNANDEZ, GOLDA SOL MADARANG
659 FERNANDEZ, IAN JAMES ONG
660 FERNANDEZ, KAREN BUENVIAJE
661 FERRER, SHEILA SANTOS
662 FIGUEROA, MELQUIADES DEL ROSARIO
663 FIRAZA, PAUL NIMROD BORJA
664 FIRMALINO, GRACE CONTRERAS
665 FLORA, ROUMAYNE SUMICAD
666 FLORENDO, CHARLES EDWARD GRIÑO
667 FLORENDO, KATHRYN ANN UNDAY
668 FLORENDO, MARIA CHRISTINE PEREZ
669 FLORENTIN, LAPAZ MONICA MARTILLO
670 FLORES, ANTHONETTE DELOS SANTOS
671 FLORES, BARBARA AMITY NAVARRETE
672 FLORES, FATIMA CABUHAT
673 FLORES, KATHERINE TAN
674 FLORES, MA FLUORENCE QUE
675 FLORES, MA KRISTINE CLAIRE LAGAHIT
676 FLORES, MICHELLE MAY LAYSON
677 FLORES, ROSALYN PARAISO
678 FLORES, RUBEN CASALTA
679 FLORES, VERONICA SAMSON
680 FLOTILDE, NELSON JR YAP
681 FONTANILLA, MARK ANTHONY GAGALAC
682 FONTE, JOHN LLOYD FADERANGA
683 FORMOSO, LAWRENCE MANGOSING
684 FORONDA, AUREEN CAYAMANDA
685 FRANCISCO, JENNIFER ROSE CUYA
686 FRANCISCO, MA CECILIA OBLEADA
687 FRANCISCO, MICHELLE QUIRAO
688 FRANCISCO-LIM, KATRINA TERESE LEGASTO
689 FRANCO, PRECIOUS LOU TANGKENGKO
690 FRONDOZA, MA KRISTINA RIANO
691 FUENTES-RODRIGUEZ, VIRGINCITA FERRY
692 FURTO, ROXANNE MOGOL
693 FUSIN, LENOR PANIQUE
694 GABALES, MELINDA RAVELO
695 GABITO, ELEANOR HUBILLA
696 GABOR, REBECCA ANN VASQUEZ
697 GABRIEL, ARMIDA JIMENEZ
698 GADUANG, ABRAHAM JR BRIZUELA
699 GAGARIN, FRANCIS JAMES URETA
700 GALANG, LEANDRO DESTAJO
701 GALAURAN, JOSE MARI DEL VALLE
702 GALIA, LEA GUTIERREZ
703 GALICIA, PAUL MICHAEL FRANI
704 GALIPOT, IAN NEIL CAYOS
705 GALLEGO, RHYAN CAELIAN
706 GALLENERO, PEACHY CATALAN
707 GALLITO, ZEDRIX IGNACIO
708 GALURA, AGNES BALUYOT
709 GAMBOA, AI EVANGELISTA
710 GAMINO, IVY MORILLA
711 GAMOS, ANNA MARIE JAMERO
712 GANALON, MARCO ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ
713 GANANGAN, SHEILA GRAIL JOSE
714 GANTICA, HERMILIZA PINEDA
715 GARABILEZ, VIRGIE VALDEZ
716 GARCENILA, JOY GILLESANIA
717 GARCERA, VENUS PALMES
718 GARCIA, ADRIAN VERGEL
719 GARCIA, AILEEN GUINO
720 GARCIA, CATHERINE DE VELA
721 GARCIA, JOYCE GONZALES
722 GARCIA, MARIANNE MONSAYAC
723 GARCIA, MARIE LILEEN CABANERO
724 GARCIA, MARIEFLOR CRISTY MAGSINO
725 GARCIA, REY-AN NINO LOPEZ
726 GARCIA, RUBY ABARRO
727 GARCIA, SHANE ERWIN MASAYON
728 GARCIA, SHIENA WINKLE FLORES
729 GARDUQUE, CLAIRE II ALCANTARA
730 GARGANERA, KRISTY BRILLANTES
731 GARIANDO, KIM PETRACHE
732 GARRIDO, JOSE JR GUILLEN
733 GASCON, JUAN PAOLO MORENO
734 GATCHALIAN, LOVELL BALUTE
735 GATCHALIAN, MA KATHRINA THERESE CATINDIG
736 GATMAITAN, MARIA BENITA TIGLAO
737 GAVINO, ARIES CAESAR PATDU
738 GAVIOLA-PEREGRINO, ROSALYN MANANKIL
739 GAW, MICHAEL VINCENT MEDIANTE
740 GAWIGAWEN, SHARON BAGANO
741 GAYAGOY, ALBRIGHT SILVERIO GUBATAN
742 GAYOS, GLENN MICHAEL LAIZ
743 GELERA, JANUARY EBDANE
744 GELI, DENNIS BENJAMIN OCCEÑA
745 GELLYNCK, MARC PINEDA
746 GEMARINO, JEREMIAH BUTCH TALLO
747 GEMENTIZA, LOISA DONNA QUIMPE
748 GENTUGAYA, APRIL MARIE OTAYDE
749 GERARDO, CLAIRE ANINGAT
750 GERARDO, NORA GITABAO
751 GERONIMO, KRISTIN VENICE VALERIO
752 GERONIMO, MARIO MAZZARELLO RAMIREZ
753 GERONIMO, RHEA TERESA RESULTAN
754 GESULGA, ALYN LOFRANCO
755 GIANAN, AILEEN DE GUIA
756 GILBUENA, JAY ILLUT
757 GISBERT, KATRINA MARIE VICTORIA ERNESTINE ABAD
758 GLORIA, KARLO ROBERTO DOMINGUEZ
759 GLORIOSO, MA CARINA SANAGUSTIN
760 GO, CHERIELYNN DIANN TAN
761 GO, JOHN HENDERSON YEE
762 GO, JON AVERY TAN
763 GO, MICHELLE FERNANDEZ TE
764 GO, ROSEMARIE CEREZO
765 GO, WARREN CHRISTIAN CHANBONPIN
766 GOLEKOH, MARJORIE CO
767 GOLOCAN, IAN FEB GARBIN
768 GOMEZ, ANN NICOLINE AVE
769 GOMEZ, MARY ROSELYN JINGCO
770 GONZALES, AMY DIZON
771 GONZALES, CARMELA GAN
772 GONZALES, CATHERINE YAP
773 GONZALES, KAREN GAMOLO
774 GONZALES, MA ESPERANZA ONG
775 GONZALES, MARK TAN
776 GONZALES, PAOLA ANGELI ANTONIO
777 GONZALES, REDENTOR CAESAR GO
778 GONZALES, ROBINA FRANCE
779 GOTERA, FEMIE JARDINICO
780 GOTLADERA, REGINA CARMELI MANGUBAT
781 GRAJALES, ENRIQUE JR MANCIA
782 GRANDE, FREDERICK CHIRICCO CLAVERIA
783 GROZMAN, RAFAEL JOSE MUÑOZ
784 GUBAT, HARA JANE ALIMA
785 GUERRERO, JULIUS ROBERT BALDEMOR
786 GUERRERO, MICHAEL BALDEMOR
787 GUERRERO, MYLAI DIMACULANGAN
788 GUERRERO, RUBY JANE SAHID
789 GUEVARRA-RAYMUNDO, MARIFEL QUIOCHO
790 GUILING, MARLON ESGUERRA
791 GUILLEN, LAURICE GRAGASIN
792 GUILLERMO, YVONNE MIGUEL
793 GUINTO, ARCHELLE DELA ROSA
794 GUINTU, FERDINAND ZABALA
795 GUITAN, GLENNALYN REYES
796 GULLE, VERNNA DEE MARIE DARUNDAY
797 GUMAPON, JOAR KENT PELIGRINO
798 GUNHURAN, WILLY POLIQUIT
799 GUTIERREZ, ADRIAN CARLO YSMAEL LAGRIA
800 GUTIERREZ, ANNA KRISTINA MANAHAN
801 GUTIERREZ, JOSE BENJAMIN III PANGILINAN
802 GUTIERREZ, KATHLEEN CALMA
803 GUTIERREZ, MARY LOUISE LINGAD
804 GUTING, MAY DELIGHT GAERLAN
805 GUZMAN, JOY ABIGAIL SANTOS
806 HADJI YUSOPH, ALANISAH DAGO
807 HALASAN, KAREN CAGA-ANAN
808 HALILI, BARBRA JANE CLEMENTE
809 HALILI, GIA MARI FERRY
810 HALILI, RYAN MONEVA
811 HAO, CELINE ANDREA VILLANUEVA
812 HAO, EMMANUEL II UY
813 HAO, GIANKARLO VIQUIERA
814 HAO, JOAN MA
815 HAO, KENBERLY TAN
816 HENSON, KARL EVANS RIVERA
817 HENSON, MA LISSA ANGELA GUANLAO
818 HENSON, MARY ANN GRETCHEN MARCELINO
819 HERMOSISIMA, AVRIL GUANGCO
820 HERNAEZ, MA CARLA ANGELA PANTE
821 HERNANDEZ, AARON MARK ROMILLA
822 HERNANDEZ, AMANDA RITA CRISOSTOMO
823 HERNANDEZ, ANTHONY DE LEON
824 HERNANDEZ, BENJAMIN JR GUTIERREZ
825 HERNANDEZ, KAREN ANN REYES
826 HERNANDEZ, MA ELISA GARCIA
827 HERNANDEZ, MISHELLE MENDOZA
828 HERNANDO, MONA LIZA ENOPIA
829 HERRERA, REYNA MARIE CHUA
830 HILADO, CHAD BRYAN PEÑAFLORIDA
831 HILADO, JOY BALAHADIA
832 HILAPO, ABEGAIL COLLADO
833 HILARIO, ANGELICA MAE ALUYEN
834 HINUNANGAN, JARRIET ANNE ARCUINO
835 HOMERES, MARRIS MARGALLO
836 HUAN, CONNIE HUI
837 HUDIERES, GLENN CORDOVA
838 HURTADA, REYA ANDREA ALVARAN
839 HURTADO, DARNEL JASPER OLIVEROS
840 IBARRA, APRIL ROSE CALAUOD
841 IBASCO, ALINE GERONA
842 IBAÑEZ, RACQUEL CAMPOS
843 IDULSA, ELSIE DUPA
844 IGNA, CHRISTINE RHEA SERRANO
845 IGNACIO, JENNIFER JANABAJAB
846 IGNACIO, VICENTE III MARTINO
847 ILAGAN, CARLO ALEJANDRO AZUCENAS
848 ILAGAN, ELAINE MARISSE HALILI
849 ILAGAN, KRISTINE JOY HABLO
850 ILANO, EARL PEREZ
851 ILAO, JOHN CASTILLO
852 INACAY, SHARLENE FERRER
853 INCIONG, LESLIE MENDOZA
854 INDADANO, JOANNEVE IMPERIAL
855 INDO, ARIEL SOTTO
856 INGLES, RUCHIE ONRUBIA
857 INSO, RONAN CHRIS JIMENEZ
858 ITABLE, JILL RAFOLS
859 ITE, MARITESS OPEÑA
860 JACINTO, MIA MAPUTOL
861 JADAN, SUZETTE LUMABI
862 JAMIRI, AL-RADJID JAMAHARI
863 JANUBAS, FAYE ANSON LOPEZ
864 JAPITANA, MARC PALOMARIA
865 JARA, MONICA FELISE AQUINO
866 JARABELO, ROMEL ENRIQUEZ
867 JARILLAS, GILLIAN LOUANNE ILAGAN
868 JASA, ANNACEL RHEA BARON
869 JAUCULAN, MARIA CRISTINA MAGRACIA
870 JAWALI, ALMA MANGALI
871 JIMENO, JOVY ANNE BRIONES
872 JINGCO, MA THERESA REGONIA
873 JOCSON, COLLEEN DEL ROSARIO
874 JOCSON, MARY ANN SASI
875 JOSE, JOE MARIE MAGANTO
876 JOVIDA, MA CHRISTINA CEDILLA
877 JUELE, ALLAN INTOY
878 JUMAO-AS, ROSETTE CEBALLOS
879 JUMAWAN, JEAN CYRIL ALEGRIA
880 JURUENA, MAY FLOR BATALLA
881 KATIGBAK, REGINE MARGUERITE LOPEZ
882 KHO, ELAINE HO
883 KHO, MARLENE CHAN
884 KHO, SUZETTE GRACE ROSERO
885 KIMPO, RAUL JR ZAPATA
886 KING, NIKKI LORRAINE YEO
887 KINTANAR, ALAIN ONDOY
888 KOCHOA, RICHARD PHILIP FERNANDEZ
889 KOLE, RAYMAND MARQUEZ
890 KOON, RACHEL LIM
891 LABADIA, SHERLYN AGSALUD
892 LABANIEGO, LOBELLA DOSADO
893 LABITAN, DIONE PANGANIBAN
894 LABORTE, MARIE CHARISMA JOVER
895 LACANILAO, REDFORD SANTOS
896 LACAP, MARIA CRISTINA MALLARI
897 LACHICA, JOSEPH ANTHONY DE JESUS
898 LACSINA, IRMINA SARMIENTO
899 LAIZ, GAIL SOYANGCO
900 LAJARA, BRYAN CRUZ
901 LANDAN, ROSELYN PIEDAD
902 LANGILAO, SALIMAH MULOK
903 LANGREO, WILLIAM JEROME GAMANA
904 LANORIO, CHRISTINE BUBAN
905 LANTIN, FRANCES LILY GALARPE
906 LAO, LIRA MALVAROZA
907 LAO, MARIE ANTONIETTE SEVALLOS
908 LAQUIHON, NEIL HUMPREY ONGAYO
909 LARRODER, MA GIRLIE TABILONA
910 LASCANO, ROY DE CASTRO
911 LASCONA, ANECILLYN CALUNOD
912 LASQUITE, GARY GONZALES
913 LAT, ALLAN ABUTAZIL
914 LATAP, RONALD RODRIGUEZ
915 LAUREL, CHARLOTTE KAY MENDIA
916 LAUREL, MENCHU DEL ROSARIO
917 LAUREZO, MARIA FLORENCE NEGRE
918 LAURILLA, DIANA LORRAINE REYES
919 LAVENTE, JODETTE JOY HABANA
920 LAYAG, GINALYN LUNA
921 LAYUG, MA THERESA SALONGA
922 LEGACION, ANNA LIZA LOYOLA
923 LEGISLADOR, MA SOLEDAD MILLENDEZ
924 LEI, JOHN CARLSON APOLERIANO
925 LETIGIO, MERCI ANGELIE JAYME
926 LIAO, CHONA SALAZAR
927 LICUANAN, ANGELINA RAMOS
928 LICUDAN, CLAIRE GALANG
929 LIGAS, FRANKIE DELA CERNA
930 LIM, ALEEZA DEE
931 LIM, CHAUNCEY KESTER LAO
932 LIM, CHERRY JOSON
933 LIM, DEBBIE TONG
934 LIM, EDWIN NG
935 LIM, PAMELA ANNE MEDILLO
936 LIM, RICHARD KOA
937 LIM, WINNIE SHARON LIM
938 LIMSUI, JENNY TAN
939 LIMTIAN, JASMIN ANGELES
940 LINOD, MARY DARYL JOYCE FRANCISCO
941 LLANES, ALESON CLAIRE ARANAS
942 LLANES, JOEMER JOHN DY
943 LLANETA-ARCIAGA, MYLA ASTILLERO
944 LO, AILEEN ROSE YOUNG
945 LO, JOANNA DE JESUS
946 LOGRONIO, RICO ESLLER
947 LOGDAT, MARIESTELA RABI
948 LOGUINSA, RAQUEL BENANING
949 LOMBOY, ALLYN REY BUGAGON
950 LOMONGO, KRISTINE SILVIDO
951 LOO, ROSELYN GRACE GO
952 LOPEZ, ANN MARIE BERNARDINE PABLO
953 LOPEZ, JOSE ALEJANDRO DE OCAMPO
954 LOPEZ, KENNETH VADILLO
955 LOPEZ, STEPHEN ESTRADA
956 LOPEZ, THEA GAY ENGRACIA
957 LOPEZ, WINNA ACODILI
958 LOQUIAS, ALVARO JR APARTE
959 LORETO, LORD EUCLID ANTHONY SUELLO
960 LORICO, JENNIFER LOU LAUDATO
961 LOZADA, ANGELO BANZON
962 LOZADA, LOVILLA MARIE VILLARETE
963 LOZADA, MARIA IMELDA JUDITH
964 LU, GIRLIE SUN
965 LUANCING, MARIE GRACE LIM
966 LUCAS, MARY GRACE SARMIENTO
967 LUCAS, ROXANNE SINGSON
968 LUCERO, JONALD OCHIA
969 LUCIDO, MARIE CARMELA YAP
970 LUCIO, ANA JENICA SANTOS
971 LUKBAN, TRINIDAD DOLORES RANESES
972 LUNA, HERDEE GLORIANE CRISTAL
973 LUNA, MELISSA TITA JUNG
974 LUNA, REGINALD JARVIS PASION
975 LUNA, RONALD ARTUZ
976 LUQUINARIO, MA ISABELLE RAMOS
977 LUSTRE, RONALD ALVIN VILLANUEVA
978 LUY, MICHAEL WATA
979 MABBAGU, ETHEL PAGUIGAN
980 MACABUAG, ANDREA MARIE ARNALDO
981 MACALING, JURINA JOY PORTIGO
982 MACALINGA, EUGENE TORDECILLA
983 MACANDA, GENEVIEVE MARIE SIA
984 MACANDOG, MA JAYME LAURICE DIHIANSAN
985 MACARAIG, JENNIFER ARELLANO
986 MACARAMPAT, MYRA MABAYA
987 MACASADIA, SHARON LLANTO
988 MACASAET, MARY ANN VILLALUNA
989 MACATANGAY, CONSTANCIA FATIMA CALINGASAN
990 MACUSI, GLORELENE BATALANG
991 MADAMBA-PADUA, JONAH PIZARRO
992 MADRAZO, MITZI ANN LLANES
993 MADRID, FRANCES IVY ELLA
994 MADRID, PHILIP REYES
995 MADRIÑAN, SHARON LAURENTE
996 MAGALONA, EMMANUEL ENRIQUE JOCHICO
997 MAGBANUA, CHERRY PROSPERO
998 MAGBANUA, ERVA CARSOLA
999 MAGBANUA, MARY ANTOINETTE BRIONES
1000 MAGBITANG, FRANKLIN SANTOS
1001 MAGBOO, MC BERNARD ABANADOR
1002 MAGDAUG, LUDGERO JR DE LA CRUZ
1003 MAGNAYE, MARIE FRANCES THERESE BIBOSO
1004 MAGPALE, SHIELA TALLARA
1005 MAGSALIN, RACHEL-ANNE MENDOZA
1006 MAGSAYO, LESLIE CHRISTINE BUGAS
1007 MAGSINO, ERMIE RAMILO
1008 MAGSINO, MIRA MAY GUTIERREZ
1009 MAGTAGNOB, EFREM BOLANO
1010 MALALUAN, GINA ILAGAN
1011 MALANAY, ERWIN DELAS LLAGAS
1012 MALENAB, JOHN PAUL GOMEZ
1013 MALFERRARI, EMIL DEL ROSARIO
1014 MALICUDID, SHIELA HEYRES
1015 MALILLIN, HONEYLOU PAULE
1016 MALIMBAN, GLADYSGAY LEGASPI
1017 MALIWAT, LEVI MONDOC
1018 MALLARE, GENEVIEVE PIMENTEL
1019 MALLARI, ALLEN CARREON
1020 MALONG, CHANDY LOU PATIAG
1021 MAMAINTE, RAMMYS ALONTO
1022 MAMARIL, CLEA AQUINO
1023 MAMAWAG, AILEEN CAHATOL
1024 MANAHAN, AMIELYN CANQUIN
1025 MANALASTAS, DIONELLA SIGUA
1026 MANALASTAS, JEMAILA PAULA COTIANGCO
1027 MANALO, ALMA BRUCAL
1028 MANALO, SHERRY GAIL DIOLA
1029 MANANSALA, FERDIMARC EMMANUEL QUEJA
1030 MANANZAN-LAMSEN, MARIE LOUIES JUNIO
1031 MANAYSAY, RONNIE SOLIS
1032 MANANGAN, RHESA MICHELLE ANTEOLA
1033 MANDAC, MARIA THERESA RIVERA
1034 MANGONDATO, OFELISA PUNO
1035 MANGUBA, JONATHAN BELTRAN
1036 MANGUERRA, MARK CONSTANTINE CRISTOBAL
1037 MANGULABNAN, VAN DERICK ABELA
1038 MANIEGO, SAMMY GAYAS
1039 MANINANG, NOEL JR OMEGA
1040 MANTE, BEVERLEE VERONA LAZA
1041 MANUEL, ROCIEL PRESLYN MANGAOIL
1042 MANUEL, SHERILEN VILLARUEL
1043 MANUTA, SHARY MAY EVASCO
1044 MANZANERO, NOEMIE MUSA
1045 MANZANO, DIANNE ALDANA
1046 MANZANO, JOY VALERIE PEREZ
1047 MARAGUINOT, MARION DAJAO
1048 MARCIANO, MANOLITO NUÑEZ
1049 MARCONI, ODANI JEMA FRANCES DAWEY
1050 MARGES, MELVYN ANDRADE
1051 MARIANO, ANNIE FLOR CAHILIG
1052 MARIANO, ANTOINETTE CALAUNAN
1053 MARIANO, KLARISA AGATEP
1054 MARONILLA, MARIA ANGELA CUAN
1055 MARTINEZ, FRANCES RACHELLE RAGASA
1056 MARTINEZ, MA AILEEN PEREZ
1057 MARTINEZ, THELMA CUSTODIO
1058 MASALUNGA, CESAR JR ILAGAN
1059 MATA, MAE GRACE ARCHE
1060 MATEN, LYNETTE MISOLA
1061 MATEO, CHRISTINA CARMEN DIRECTO
1062 MATEO, DANLYN IVY SUCALDITO
1063 MATEO, ROSELYN CRISTELLE ISIDRO
1064 MATEO, ROXANNE GAYLE RUBIANO
1065 MATIBAG, LALAINE PANGILINAN
1066 MAYNES, ANNE KATHLEEN ALONZO
1067 MANA, JOAN MAE JANAYON
1068 MANGIO, MARA MAAN VILLANUEVA
1069 MEDIANO, ALEX MARTIN ZOSA
1070 MEDILLO, ACHIM VALENCIANO
1071 MEDINA, ALVIN CANTABACO
1072 MEDINA, LARISSA MENDOZA
1073 MEER, LORENZA MALIGAYA
1074 MELENDRES, GERALDINE LIFANA
1075 MELENDRES, MARK FRANCIS ANGELES
1076 MELLA, ZERO TORIBIO
1077 MENDOZA, AILEEN BICOMONG
1078 MENDOZA, ARTURO III SUMAGAT
1079 MENDOZA, CHARISSE SAN LUIS
1080 MENDOZA, JEFFERSON BARTOLOME
1081 MENDOZA, JEFFREY PALARCA
1082 MENDOZA, JUAN CARLO LIWANAG
1083 MENDOZA, MA KHRISTIN JOY DE JESUS
1084 MENDOZA, MA LEONILA BRABANTE
1085 MENDOZA, MICHAEL VINCENT SANTOTOME
1086 MENDOZA, PIA MAGDALENA RAMO
1087 MENDOZA, ROSE MARCEL SISON
1088 MERCADO, ABIGAIL MARQUEZ
1089 MERCADO, APRIL ANGELES
1090 MERCADO, CHARLES PASCUAL
1091 MERCADO, MARICHELLE MARCOS
1092 MERCADO, MARY GRACE ABUJEN
1093 MERCADO, THEA PEREZ
1094 MERCURIO, JO-ANN IBARRA
1095 MESINA, MICHAEL THOMAS PACDANGANAN
1096 MIGRIÑO, JULIUS JR RUAYA
1097 MIGUEL, EDGARDO II MALLARI
1098 MIJARES-MAMATE, MARISSA DOMINGO
1099 MILAN, KATHLEEN ANN SOBREDO
1100 MIRANDA, CHRISTEL DIZON
1101 MIRANDA, SHERRYL JANE GUEVARRA
1102 MIRANDA, SHERYL TORRES
1103 MISOLAS, MARY ARI NARCE
1104 MOLINA, JOSE MARIA JUAN
1105 MOLINA, NOEL CALIBOSO
1106 MOLINYANE, BJORN MALABUYOC
1107 MOLON, JAN NOEL DEL ROSARIO
1108 MONDALA, JORIS BARCARSE
1109 MONROY, JONASH LACERNA
1110 MONSAYAC, EMMANUEL DELA CRUZ
1111 MONTANO, ORLENE BALDOVINO
1112 MONTANO, REUBEN DIOLESTE
1113 MONTEMAR, TRINA MARIE JAVIER
1114 MONTES, CONOR-JAN REYES
1115 MONTES, JAMES KENNETH BAROL
1116 MONTES, JEFFREY BULAONG
1117 MORADA, JEROME RAMIREZ
1118 MORAL, ANGEL ANDREA MALINIS
1119 MORALES, JORDAN YSABEL GRIMALDO
1120 MORAN, CYNTHIA GUINARAN
1121 MORENO, MICHELLE BRIÑAS
1122 MORI, ERIKA PASCUA
1123 MORLA, RYAN ANICETO
1124 MOSCARE, ROSARIO LORAINE MUTIA
1125 MOSTRALES, LEIDEN FAITH BERGADO
1126 MOY, AMYLEN ESPINA
1127 MUHARRAM, SHARIJANE DILANGALEN
1128 MUJAR, MICHAEL MARTIN PASCO
1129 MURILLO, JUAN MIGUEL LOPEZ
1130 MUTIANGPILI, MICHELLE RICALDE
1131 NACARIO, SUSSETTE CAPISTRANO
1132 NACINO, VINA BURAGA
1133 NACION, AERIS JANE DUBLADO
1134 NACPIL, PAULETTE DAVID
1135 NADELA, LOUEL FHEB PAGHACIAN
1136 NAGAYO, MICHELLE CABANAG
1137 NAJARRO, AUDREY ANNE QUIMIGUING
1138 NALANGAN, MA JOAN NEMIS
1139 NANG, LUISON WONG
1140 NARCEDA, PAUL NORLAN LAOPAO
1141 NARTATEZ, EVELYN GRACE ESTRADA
1142 NARTATEZ, REJOJO OQUENDO
1143 NASON, ELLEN SALINAS
1144 NATIVIDAD, RHAYCHELLE MAPILI
1145 NATIVIDAD, RUDY BOY I LLANOS
1146 NAVALES, EVA CHRISTINE ONG
1147 NAVALTA, ROBERT ROMULO
1148 NAVARRO, CHRISTIAN ESCONDE
1149 NAVARRO, JESSTER DE VENECIA
1150 NAVARRO, RENAN BALBA
1151 NAVARRO, RIA GUADIZ
1152 NAVARRO, VIOLA LEAH SANTOS
1153 NAVOR, ODESSA MERCADO
1154 NEMIS, MAOCHE PANELO
1155 NERIC, JEAN MICHELLE STA ROMANA
1156 NEVADO, MARIEL SALAZAR
1157 NG, JENNIFER DE LEON
1158 NG, JENNIFER SO
1159 NG, VIENNA BLESSIE GO
1160 NGO, JACQUELINE TAPAY
1161 NGO, JIM ROYO
1162 NICOLAS, KRISTINE GERONIMO
1163 NICOLAS, RATCHEL MELLOS
1164 NICOLAS, RODELIA VILLANUEVA
1165 NIERRAS, EDGARDO JADULCO
1166 NIETO, B JENNIELYN SANTOS
1167 NIEVA, STANLEE JAMES DY
1168 NILLOS, BIEN ELI PIANSAY
1169 NISPEROS, JOSEF SANTOS
1170 NORICO, BRYAN LOMBOY
1171 NOSCAL, ARVIN BAQUE
1172 NOZAWA, MARIA CECILIA LAO
1173 NUBLA, BELLE ERIKA REYES
1174 NUEVA, SHERWYN PEÑEZA
1175 NUEVE, GIRARD LUKE NACAR
1176 OCAMPO, CHRISTOPHER UY
1177 OCAMPO, MA VIOLETA CREDITO
1178 OCHOA, MARICRIS DUMIPIWAS
1179 OCTAVIANO, MELODY GUCE
1180 OLAY, CRISTINA ABUAN
1181 OLAY, JOANNA GONZAGA
1182 OLANO, JEAN MABELLE OCAMPO
1183 OLIVEROS, RUBY RIVERAL
1184 ONG, JAMIE ROSE YAO
1185 ONG, KAROLYN LEH
1186 ONG ABRANTES, ROWENA SAYCO
1187 OPADA, GAYLE LOUISE BENLOT
1188 OPERIANO, MYLA MAE BENDITA
1189 OPORTO, MAE KIRSTIN CENIZA
1190 ORENSE, WINSTON REZA ECLEO
1191 ORLINA, JAMIE ROSE SANTOS
1192 OROLFO, GRACE LIM
1193 OROZCO, MARY CHRISSEN LOY MARTINEZ
1194 ORTILLA, JILL ADEGAIL GUIRRE
1195 ORTILLO, PIA CARMELA ABRIGO
1196 ORTIZ, EMMALYN GRACE PANGINDIAN
1197 OSORIO, JHEROMME PAPA
1198 OUANO, CHRISTINE JOY OCAMPO
1199 OZARAGA, IVY JOY TE ENG FO
1200 PAA, GREGSON RICO STA MARIA
1201 PABONA, JOHN MARK PASCUA
1202 PACARDO, CHARLOTTE VILLANUEVA
1203 PACIS, LAURENCIO JR DOMINIQUE
1204 PACIS, MICAELA MAITERUM
1205 PACQUING, PAUL ARVIN PUA
1206 PADERES, RALPH MARTINEZ
1207 PADINIT, ARTURO MELVIN JR ABSUELO
1208 PADUA, LOBERT ARBOTANTE
1209 PAGARIGAN, BENJAMIN III BUENSUCESO
1210 PAGNAS, ANA CLAIRE VENTURA
1211 PALAD, PAOLO EDGARDO JR CORTEZ
1212 PALAFOX, JOEY LADERA
1213 PALAMOS, CERISSA PONCE
1214 PALLINGAYAN, REHANA VALDEZ
1215 PALMA, PIO JR MARGATE
1216 PALOMA, MAY ANN GALORIO
1217 PALOR, MARIA VICTORIA SANGUYO
1218 PAMINTUAN, CELESTE DIMAANO
1219 PAMPILON, SHERYLL ESPINOSA
1220 PANAGA, CHARLIE AGGUIAO
1221 PANALIGAN, ROLAND MANALO
1222 PANDAO, ALMARIE DIMARO
1223 PANDAOG, ALVINER LAKIBUL
1224 PANGILINAN, SHERWIN VALDEZ
1225 PANINGBATAN, JAMES CASTILLO
1226 PANLILIO, ROBIN ALDABA
1227 PANOGAN, NICOLE PERPETUA SOCORRO REYES
1228 PANOPIO, NESTI JAMES BUENAVENTURA
1229 PANTI, JUAN PAULO LOZANO
1230 PAPIO, PETER PAUL PENULIAR
1231 PAR, MARIA ROWENA ALMONTE
1232 PARAGAS, MELANIE SANTIAGO
1233 PARAISO, ERIC ANTONIO YOUNG
1234 PARAISO, RYAN BANAAG ADIL
1235 PARAS, BRYAN MENDOZA
1236 PARAS, MA GLENDA ADRIANO
1237 PARCON, JANICE DIESTRO
1238 PARDE, EDESSA MALANYAON
1239 PARDO, JANUARY ANNE ARCILLA
1240 PAREL, ULYSSES LAZO
1241 PARICO, RIZZA JANE JUICO
1242 PARROCHA, BERNADETTE LANUZA
1243 PASCO, RANDY AMURAO
1244 PASCUAL, BENEDICTO JR REYES
1245 PASION, MARK ULEP
1246 PASON, IAN JAMES GABUTERO
1247 PATAWARAN, JEFFREY LAO
1248 PATAWARAN, JOSEPH LAO
1249 PATDU, MA PAMELA DIMATATAC
1250 PATTUGALAN, HONEYLEEN LITTAUA
1251 PAUCHANO, FRAULIN ALDEA
1252 PAUIG, VANESSA TUMALIUAN
1253 PAWIG, TERRY ANN ANGEL
1254 PAYAWAL, ANNA MARIA FLORENTINO
1255 PAZ, JOVITO RAMIL BALLESTER
1256 PEDRESO, JOYCE SILVA
1257 PEDRON, GHOMER ANTHONY MILAOR
1258 PELO, RICHARD JOHN BERTIZ
1259 PENARUBIA, MARK ANTHONY LACEA
1260 PENEQUITO, RUDYARD CASTRO
1261 PENEYRA-GUTIERREZ, KRISTINE APPLE MALALUAN
1262 PEPITO, DARYLL DEE CABALUNA
1263 PERALTA, MARIA DULCE CORAZON TAINO
1264 PERALTA, ROBELLE JOAN ANTONIO
1265 PEREZ, CHARLENE MAE BALAGTEY
1266 PEREZ, JOHN MARK GETUBIG
1267 PEREZ, MINNELLIE HERNANDEZ
1268 PEREZ, PATRICIA JOY GARALDE
1269 PEROCHO, ROCKY NEYRA
1270 PERTUBAL, MARIA VICTORIA BALUBAR
1271 PESIGAN, RAMON JULIAN MONTILLA
1272 PEÑALOSA, ALVIN PASCASIO
1273 PEÑAS, MA KRISTINE LORRAINE TOSCANO
1274 PEÑASERADA, LEAH AMOROSO
1275 PILONGO, JASPER CARA
1276 PIMENTEL, KATE PULIDO
1277 PIMENTEL, MARILETTE CABISO
1278 PIMENTEL, RUBY SAPITULA
1279 PINAT, JOSEPHINE VIRGINIA PONCE
1280 PINEDA, CLARISSA SANTIAGO
1281 PINEDA, EUTIQUIANO III COLADILLA
1282 PINEDA, JOWELLA REAL
1283 PINGOL, GERALDO SOLOMON
1284 PITAO, FE MARSHA SALARZA
1285 PITPIT, DIANE LEE JAVIER
1286 PO, JOSE RICARDO FAJUTRAO
1287 PODERANAN, PAMELA SITE
1288 POLINAR, AILENE DE LA RAMA
1289 POMER, MARIA PAMELA NICDAO
1290 PONCE, MARIE COR MISAL
1291 PONTEJOS, PATRICIA ANNE ZALVIDEA
1292 PORCIUNCULA, CYRYL VENTIGAN
1293 PORCIUNCULA, JOSE PAOLO CABREIRA
1294 PORNESO, LIZALIN ORTIZ
1295 PORTIGO, RANDY BANGOY
1296 POSADAS, CHRISTIA MARIE JUNDANERO
1297 POZON, NICCOLO HORACIO SALAZAR
1298 PRINCESA, LESALDEO MOSES REGALA
1299 PUENTESPINA, FRANCES GUEVARRA
1300 PUGEDA, REMER OCAMPO
1301 PUGONG, HECTOR UYBA-AN
1302 PUNONGBAYAN, ROMMEL BERNARDINO
1303 PUZON, FRANCISCO HERBIE BANAAG
1304 QUE, DEAN HARRIS PO
1305 QUERIJERO, FAYE ERIKA REDONDO
1306 QUETURAS, EUSELYNE MARTIN
1307 QUEVEDO, GERTO LEUTERIO
1308 QUIAMBAO, RYAN DIAZ
1309 QUIBIN, JEANNE DABBAY
1310 QUILLOY, MARY GRACE PEREZ
1311 QUINCO, MELDRED CANTAGO
1312 QUINTO, CZAR KATIGBAK
1313 QUINTO, MAY FAYE DE VERA
1314 QUIROS, RORILEE PINEDA
1315 QUITO, CARMINA FRANZ GENUINO
1316 QUITOS, BENJAMIN JOHN LOPEZ
1317 QUIWA, RUBEE-LYNN FLORES
1318 QUIÑONES, FAYE MANALO
1319 RABE, ADRIAN PAUL JARAVATA
1320 RACELIS, SHERYL QUIOCHO
1321 RAFANAN, FROILAN VAL RILLERA
1322 RAFOLS, JOSEPH TRISTON BENEDICT III MEJORADA
1323 RAMIREZ, ARCHIEMEDES TUGADI
1324 RAMIREZ, CHARISSE HONEYLETTE ZAPICO
1325 RAMIREZ, MARIA ERIKA GAPAS
1326 RAMIREZ, MARIE ABIGAIL GARCHITORENA
1327 RAMIREZ, REGALADO III CERVO
1328 RAMOS, DAISY JANE CATEQUISTA
1329 RAMOS, ODESSA MARIE OLALIA
1330 RAMOS, ROCHELLE PUYAO
1331 RAMOS, WASHINGTON OPINION
1332 RAMOS, WILFREDO ADOVAS
1333 RAMOS-FERNANDO, SHIRLEY LORRAINE ALIP
1334 RAPACON, IMELDA ALCAYAGA
1335 RAPADAS, MELISSA ANNE GUERRERO
1336 RAPISURA, LOUILLE ROBIÑOS
1337 RAROQUE, SABRINA CHUA
1338 RAS, JONATHAN ACE HABULAN
1339 RASALAN, CHERYL LAMPA
1340 RASALAN, VINCENT DULAN
1341 RAYOS, ROSE ANN VALENTIN
1342 RAZA, MICHAEL MENDOZA
1343 RAZON, ELSIE CATEDRAL
1344 REBUCAL, LOWELL ANCHETA
1345 RECAIDO, ELMER RAMIREZ
1346 RECIDORO, NOEL ZACHARY SINGSON
1347 REFE, JANICE KRISTINE DULCE
1348 REFORMA, JANJAN APOLONIO
1349 REGADO, RACQUEL LEAH VILLABROZA
1350 REGERO, EVANGELINE SALAZAR
1351 RESONABLE, MAUREEN MANRIQUE
1352 RESUELLO, MARIEL CHARISSE MACARAEG
1353 REVITA, RENALYN INIBA
1354 REYES, CHARIBELLE PEREZ
1355 REYES, HERBERT VARGAS
1356 REYES, JANICE IAN REYES
1357 REYES, KATHARINE RATORIEL
1358 REYES, KRISTINE MARIE ELIZABETH TREYES
1359 REYES, MA GIZELLE BANDIAN
1360 REYES, VINCENT MICHAEL RUIZ
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Manila, Philippines
AUGUST 15, 2007
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DID YOU KNOW

AS OF 2006, there were 1.6 million registered motor vehicles in Metro Manila, accounting for 29 percent of all registered vehicles in the country (5.3 million). In the National Capital Region, there are more than 520,000 public utility vehicles, excluding buses, and over 440,000 cars.

Cyril L. Bonabente, Inquirer Research

'Flood control is LGUs' responsibility'

SC reverses CA in Las Piñas case

By Leila B. Salaverria

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) should address the flooding problem in their areas, including private subdivisions, according to a Supreme Court ruling.

The Supreme Court on Aug. 10 reversed a Court of Appeals decision that affirmed a ruling of the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) in favor of 54 residents of Meritville Townhouse Subdivision in Pulang Lupa, Las Piñas City near the Naga River.

A group of homeowners calling itself Meritville Alliance, represented by Gabriel Delim and Victor Raquipiso, filed in 1996 a complaint against the subdivision's developer, Filinvest Land Inc., because of the perennial flooding in their community that damaged their houses.

The HLURB Board of Commissioners directed Filinvest to, among others, to stop the collection of amortization from homeowners until the flooding problem had been addressed.

The board said the other option for Filinvest was to buy back the affected houses based on current market value, plus cost of improvements, and moral and exemplary damages.

Meritville was the first low-cost townhouse project in Pulang Lupa. When new subdivisions with higher elevations were built around Meritville, the project became a catch basin for the rains. It was also the one most affected when the Naga River overflowed. Filinvest installed a pumping station and improved the drainage system, but the measures were deemed inadequate.

The National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation declared the affected townhouses "unacceptable collaterals."

The homeowners filed the complaint against Filinvest with HLURB. The HLURB arbiter found that flooding was as deep as 1.25 meters and that most of the affected houses had damaged appliances, furniture, walls and doors; the pump was noisy and could not handle the

FLOOD/ A22

MUELLE Del Rio Park at the Intramuros Complex

REM ZAMORA

Lim reopens Intramuros street

By Allison W. Lopez

MANILA MAYOR ALFREDO Lim said convenience should come before cost, as he reopened yesterday Muelle del Rio Street in Intramuros to vehicular traffic.

Scrapping yet another project of his predecessor, Lim said: "It's not true that just because it is his (former Mayor Lito Atienza) project, *sisirain natin.* We change for the better."

The mayor cut the ribbon during the formal opening at 11 a.m. of the six-meter wide and 200-meter long road that was previously paved with bricks.

Drivers, he said, complained of heavy traffic on Jones Bridge and Paredes Streets as a result of Muelle del Rio's closure.

Lim ordered the City Engineer's Office to remove carefully the tiles for reuse, as was done in Avenida Rizal in Sta. Cruz.

"This will be a two-way street so those coming from the South Harbor can also pass here," said the mayor. He expected traffic conditions in front of nearby Bureau of Immigration to improve. Manila City Hall Police Office chief Col. Alex Gutierrez said drivers going to and from the South Harbor to Divisoria, Malanday, Pag-Asa, Kamuning and Monumento would now have an easier time.

A stretch of Muelle del Rio that was turned into a promenade along Pasig River became a haven of so-called "rugby boys" and petty criminals, he said.

Lim stressed that the tiled pedestrian sidewalk, waiting shed and lampposts would remain.

"I will not touch Plaza Miranda. When you change something you get a lot of reactions. Have I done anything for the better or for the worse? Ask the

LIM/ A22

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METROBRIEFS

Cop shot dead

FOUR armed men wearing bonnets gunned down a police officer in front of many witnesses, including a local barangay leader, in Tonsuya, Malabon City Wednesday evening. PO3 Bobby Egera of the city's investigation unit, identified the fatality as PO3 Lutgardo Niedo, 46, of the local police force. Niedo and his wife were at a party when a man armed with hand gun shot him at close range at around 8:20 p.m. The policeman was shot in the face at least nine times and was killed instantly. "We have yet to establish the motive of the killing, and we are having difficulty getting the cooperation of witnesses," Egera said. *Nancy Carvajal*

Early advisory mulled

METRO Manila mayors are going over a proposal of a fixed time to announce the suspension of classes during heavy rains in their respective areas to avoid issuing late advisories that inconvenience students and angered parents. Mandaluyong City Mayor Benhur Abalos said he had suggested to the League of Mayors in Metro Manila, of which he is president, to issue advisories at 5 a.m. declaring the suspension of classes during bad weather to avoid confusion. On Wednesday, the three-hour torrential rains in the morning flooded the streets and snarled traffic, leading the education department to cancel the classes at 9 a.m. when the students were already in school. *Kristine L. Alave*

OMB, PNP nab suspected smugglers

THE OPTICAL Media Board under chair Edu Manzano and the PNP-Aviation Security Group under Gen. Atilano Morada apprehended recently nine persons allegedly caught smuggling 29 boxes of counterfeit optical media products into different parts of the country. Arrested were PO1 Alisod Datumanong, Allan Simeon, Derico y Datumanong, Suwalb Malic, Alinor Salaiman, Samad Hadjihasan, Mansawi Malic, Amin Hadji Omar, and Khadaffy Usnangan. An initial investigation showed the suspects were planning to ship to Palawan, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod and Samar provinces counterfeit optical media products smuggled from China.

Kidnap suspect surrenders to clear name

By Kristine L. Alave

A MAN ON THE LIST OF THE country's most wanted turned himself in yesterday morning to officials of the Eastern Police District.

PO2 Arden Lanaza, who went absent without official leave (Awol) last year, said he wanted to clear his name and denied allegations against him.

Lanaza, 29, is on the most wanted kidnappers list of the Philippine National Police, with a P250,000 reward on his head.

Deputy Director General Reynaldo Varilla of the National Capital Region Police Office and Chief Supt. Luizo Ticman, EPD director, presented Lanaza to the media.

The suspect was assigned to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency until he went Awol.

Lanaza and 11 others allegedly kidnapped Peter Tan and his 2-year-old son in Cavite on Dec. 28, 2005.

Though Tan is still missing, his wife got their son back a few days after the abduction. The kidnappers allegedly demanded a P3 million ransom for Tan's release.

Lanaza was implicated by another suspect, Edwin Torrente, who is under the custody of the Philippine Anti-Crime Emergency Response.

The other suspects were identified as SPO1 Catalino Gonzales, Police Sr. Insp. Nathaniel Capitenea and Joey Gonzales. The seven others remained unidentified.

All policemen suspects were assigned to PDEA. Gonzales was arrested in January 2006 while the others are still at large.

Varilla said Lanaza surrendered to Sr. Supt. John Sosito, chief of the EPD investigation division, at about 9 a.m. yesterday. Lanaza said he did not surrender immediately because he feared for his safety.

PO2 Arden Lanaza with Deputy Director Gen. Reynaldo Varilla RUDY ESPERAS

Muntinlupa City rushes repair of City Hall

By Julie M. Aurelio

REPAIR ON THE FIRE-DAMaged Muntinlupa City Hall is being rushed to avoid delays that may be caused by typhoons.

Now on its second week, the work currently involves the retrofitting and cleaning of the interiors of the two-story building.

"The pace of the rehabilitation is pretty fast. We are due to replace the ruined parts of the structure like beams and posts next week," city Mayor Aldrin San Pedro said.

Though the rehabilitation cost was initially estimated to be P100 million, it is expected to go higher as the city government will have to buy new equipment and furniture.

San Pedro said he was meeting with representatives of the private sector to seek their help.

He said Hotel Sogo, a popular chain of inns, pledged to donate furniture and other fixtures when repairs were completed.

SM, the mall chain, promised an unspecified number of computers for the offices, the mayor added.

He said donations in kind were fine. "We will have to buy new equipment and the pledges would mean less expenses for us," he said.

A three-hour fire two weeks ago burned down the 50-year-old City Hall and caused damage amounting to more than P100 million.

The city declared a state of calamity. President Macapagal-Arroyo pledged P50 million for the repairs, which were expected to take more than 45 days because of the rains.

Offices were temporarily transferred to the nearby People's Center and the Annex Building in the City Hall compound.

San Pedro said the new City Hall would have more exits, a fire alarm and a fire hydrant.

He added the new City Hall would have glass panels and windows as part of the government's transparency program.

"Our residents will be able to see for themselves the transactions of our officials. The facade will have a modern finish as well," San Pedro said.

The new building will have a lounge for taxpayers and facilities for the disabled like ramps.

Gov't witness testifies vs Boratong

By Kristine L. Alave

IMAM BORATONG AND HIS SEcond wife Sheryl ruled their Pasig drug compound with an iron fist, punishing anyone for even a hint of disloyalty or disobedience, according to government witness Sheryl Lyra Pace.

The witness, who claims to be an employee at the 2,000-square meter drug den in Pasig City, told the court yesterday that the Boratongs controlled the groups that sold shabu all over the city.

During the hearing at the Pasig City Regional Trial Court, Pace said Sheryl Boratong was in charge of drug sellers called the "Waray" group, while her husband was in charge of the "Muslim" group. "But the compound was led by Boss Amin," Pace testified.

The Boratong couple is accused of operating the shabu market in Pasig City, raking in millions of pesos. The market was raided and demolished in February 2006.

Suspect missing? Don't look at me, says Lim aide

By Allison W. Lopez

AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT OF Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim and the subject of a petition for habeas corpus filed by the mother of a missing suspect said he had not seen her son after he allegedly escaped from police custody.

Alvin Salino was declared missing by his mother Susan, who filed a petition for habeas corpus in the Manila Regional Trial Court yesterday against Levy Arce and precinct commander Bernardino Cubacub.

Salino was accused of stealing from a photographer during Lim's oath-taking as mayor at the Bonifacio Shrine on June 30.

A photo published in a tabloid the following day showed Cubacub and Arce with the suspect after his arrest.

"I caught him picking my pocket," said Arce. He said he was told by policemen, among them Cubacub, to bring the suspect to the Manila City Hall police office, but the young man allegedly escaped on their way there.

Arce claimed that he did not go after the suspect because he wouldn't have been able to do so since he was a much older man. Asked if he had witnesses who saw Salino run away, Arce said he would "try to look for some."

Salino's mother had expressed fears her son could have been summarily executed after a search in the city's police stations proved futile.

Arce said there was no record of Salino's arrest in the police blotter because he chose not to file a complaint since he did not lose any valuables.

Lim...

From page A21

drivers," he said.

The new traffic situation, Lim said, would produce a chain reaction and benefit motorists going to Intramuros and Binondo.

The mayor said his street-clearing campaign would cover Zobel Roxas in San Andres Bukid, from South Superhighway to Pasig Line. He noted that basketball courts and shanties had been set up in the middle of the road. Recto, near Divisoria, would also be cleared of vendors, he added.

Meanwhile, Lim refuted claims that the Baywalk strip would lose the tourist crowd because of the dismantling of "fun" establishments in the area. Lim's demolition order was criticized for causing the loss of jobs and income for the city.

"Many lauded our move, saying that getting rid of the obstructions was a good idea. Let's see if the tourists stay away," he said.

Flood...

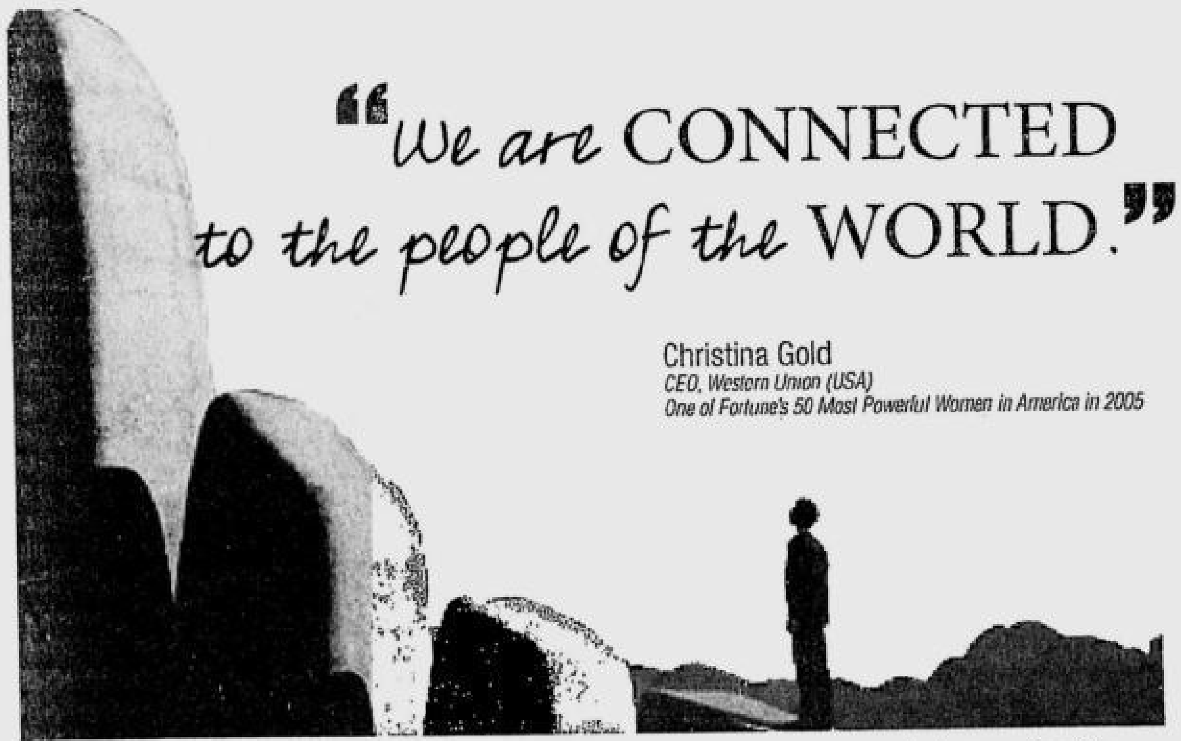
From page A21

volume of water. The arbiter said the Naga River was silted and un-dredged. The Office of the President and the Court of Appeals upheld the board's ruling. Filinvest elevated the matter to the high court.

In its decision, the high court said it was the LGUs' task to resolve the flooding problem. It pointed out that under the Local Governent Code, cities or municipalities had the responsibility to provide basic services, including drainage, sewerage and flood control.

"From these provisions, it is the city government of Las Piñas City which has the duty to control the flood in Meritville," the high court said. The high court said Filinvest could not be considered negligent because it used reasonable care and caution.

It added it was the local government's task to remedy the silting of the Naga River since it is public property.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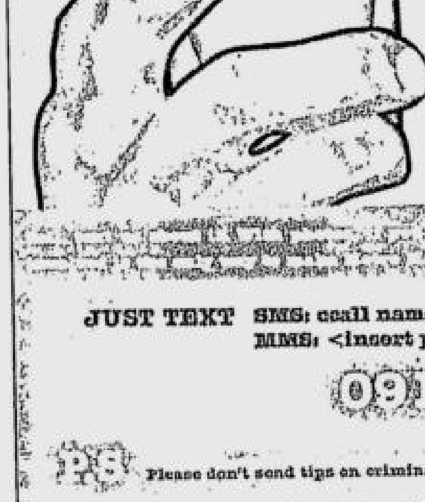

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INQUIRER

Powerful quake hits Peru, leaves over 330 dead

CANETE, PERU—A MASSIVE earthquake hit Peru on Wednesday evening and officials said more than 330 people were killed in the rubble of collapsed homes and a church as rescuers searched for victims early on Thursday.

Peru's health minister initially said few died in the 7.9-magnitude quake, but the toll later rose to more than 330, the nation's civil defense agency said. Hundreds were injured.

"Unfortunately we have official numbers," Luis Palomino, the head of the agency, said. On its website, the agency said 337 people died and 827 were injured.

Emergency workers said the coastal province of Ica south of Lima was the hardest hit region.

One fire department official in the area said at least four people were trapped when the main tower of the Senor de Luren Church in the city of Ica was toppled.

Rescuers struggled to move south toward Ica as portions of the Pan-American Highway, a key coastal route, were impassable and thieves assaulted stranded travelers, radio reports said.

"I was with my children when the movement started and then the walls collapsed. My house was destroyed," Milagros Meneses, 35, told Reuters in the city of Canete south of the capital, Lima. "The hospital gave me a tent for my kids to sleep in."

At least two people were killed in Canete.

Office workers ran onto the streets in fear as tall buildings in Lima shook in two waves that lasted around 20 seconds each and cut power lines.

A tsunami warning was issued for Peru, Chile, Ecuador and Colombia and a small tsunami was detected. But it posed no major threat and the warning was later lifted.

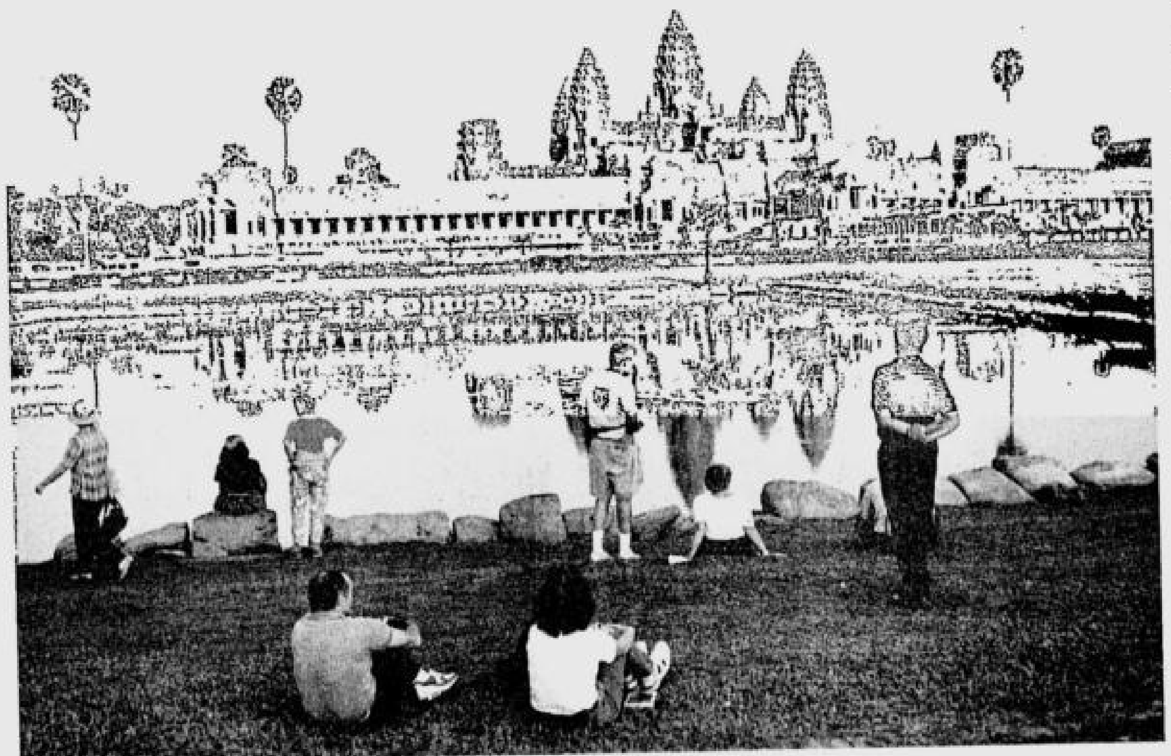
Peruvian President Alan Garcia sent condolences to the families of the quake's victims and said the country, which has suffered devastating quakes in the past, narrowly escaped a major disaster.

"It fortunately did not cause a catastrophe with an immense number of victims," he said.

The US Geological Survey at first said there were two earthquakes within minutes of each other but later amended its reports to show that one quake struck about 145 km southeast of Lima at a depth of around 40 km.

The USGS says earthquakes measuring more than 7 magnitude often result in fatalities. The Andes has many active fault lines.

In 1970, one of the world's deadliest earthquakes killed an estimated 50,000 Peruvians in catastrophic avalanches of ice and mud that buried the city of Yungay. *Reuters*



TOURISTS watch the sun set over Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious edifice, in Siem Reap, Cambodia, on Jan. 23, 1996. A new study about the vast extent of the ancient city of Angkor and reasons for its demise is a wake-up call for Cambodia to be more vigilant in its efforts to conserve a centuries-old heritage, an official said on Aug. 15. AP

Angkor under 'serious' threat from development, experts say

PHNOM PENH—UNCONTROLled development around Cambodia's Angkor temples poses a serious threat to one of the region's great wonders, said the archeologists who this week revealed the full extent of the site.

Angkor was a "vast and populous network ... stretching far beyond the well known temples of the central archeological park," said the Greater Angkor Project (GAP) at the University of Sydney on its website.

"Delicate traces of that network ... remain on the surface even today and are of great archeological significance, but are under serious threat from uncontrolled development in the Siem Reap area," the group warned.

The group on Monday published a paper saying that during its height of power between the ninth and 14th centuries, Angkor— overing about 1,000 square-kilometers—was "the most extensive city of its kind in the pre-industrial world." Angkor was at least three times larger than archaeologists had previously suspected, eclipsing comparable developments such as Tikal, a Classic Maya "city" on the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico.

Using digital mapping to detail some 3,000 sq km around the temples, the group found evidence of an urban center supported by a complex series of canals and waterways that became too vast to manage.

Deforestation and erosion caused as the city extended its rice fields to feed its bloated population led to a collapse in infrastructure, and Angkor was eventually abandoned.

The temples today remain Cambodia's largest tourist draw, attracting almost one million visitors last year and bringing more than a billion dollars to the impoverished country.

But along with the tourists has come a massive building boom in and around the Siem Reap town—the gateway to the temple complex.

Officials have long voiced concern over the effects of this explosion of visitors on the temples themselves, but attention has now been turned to development around the park. *AFP*

Mysterious infectious virus killing China's pig population

CHENGDU, CHINA—A HIGHLY infectious swine virus is sweeping China's pig population, driving up pork prices and creating fears of a global pandemic among domesticated pigs.

Animal virus experts say Chinese authorities are playing down the gravity and spread of the disease and refusing to cooperate with international scientists.

So far, the mysterious virus—believed to be an unusually deadly form of an infection known as blue-ear pig disease—has spread to 25 of China's 33 provinces and regions, prompting a pork shortage and the strongest inflation in China in a decade.

More than that, China's past lack of transparency—particularly over what became the SARS epidemic—has created global concern.

"They haven't really explained what this virus is," says Federico A. Zuckermann, a professor of immunology at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. "This is like SARS. They haven't sent samples to any international body. This is really irresponsible of China. This thing could get out and affect everyone."

There are no clear indications that blue-ear disease—if that is what this disease is—poses a threat to human health.

Though the Chinese government acknowledges that the current virus has devastated pig stocks in coastal and southern areas, it has not admitted what experts say is clear: The virus is rapidly moving inland and westward, to areas such as this one in Sichuan province, China's largest pork-producing region.

No one is certain how many of China's 500 million pigs have been infected. The government says officially that about 165,000 pigs have contracted the virus this year. *NYT*

Prosecutors seek to reopen case of poisoned Indonesian activist

JAKARTA, INDONESIA—PROSECUTORS asked the Supreme Court on Thursday to reopen a case against the sole suspect in the 2004 poisoning death of Indonesia's most prominent human rights activist, saying they had new evidence to prove his guilt.

Pollycarpus Priyanto, 46, was acquitted by the court last year after having been sentenced to 14 years in prison by a lower tribunal on charges of killing Munir Thalib, who died of arsenic poisoning on a Garuda Indonesia flight to Amsterdam.

MUNIR
1965-2004

POSTER of rights activist Munir Said Thalib. AFP

The Supreme Court cited lack of evidence in quashing the pilot's conviction, but upheld a two-year sentence for using falsified documents to get aboard the plane. Priyanto, who was off-duty at the time, has long maintained innocence in Munir's death.

Prosecutor Poltak Manulang said witnesses would show that Priyanto had ties to Indonesia's intelligence agency and that Munir was poisoned at Singapore's Changi Airport while transiting to the Netherlands—not on the first leg of the journey as earlier claimed.

An Indonesian passenger and a musician would testify that they saw Priyanto serve Munir a drink at a cafe in the terminal, he told the courtroom, which was packed with activists, intelligence officials and reporters. The activist died hours later in the air.

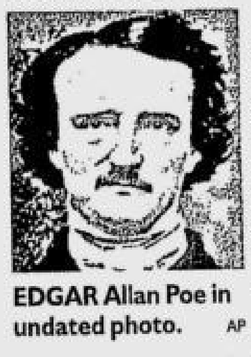
Prosecutors would also present records showing that Priyanto made 41 calls to senior intelligence official, Muchdi Purwopranjo, soon after the 38-year-old activist's death, Manulang said.

Toward the end of former President Suharto's 32-year dictatorship, Munir rose to prominence for exposing Indonesian military abuses related to East Timor's bloody struggle for independence, and to separatist movements in Papua and Aceh provinces.

Suharto was ousted amid massive street protests in 1998. *AP*

'Poe Toaster' mystery solved?

BALTIMORE—THE LEGEND WAS ALMOST too good to be true.



EDGAR Allan Poe in undated photo. AP

For decades, a mysterious figure dressed in black, his features cloaked by a wide-brimmed hat and scarf, crept into a churchyard to lay three roses and a bottle of cognac at the grave of Edgar Allan Poe.

Now, a 92-year-old man who led the fight to preserve the historic site says the visitor was his creation.

"We did it, myself and my tour guides," said Sam Porpora. "It was a promotional idea. We made it up, never dreaming it would go worldwide."

No one has ever claimed ownership of the legend. So why is Porpora coming forward now?

"I really can't tell you," Porpora answered. "I love Poe. I love talking about Poe. I had a lot to do with making Poe a universal figure. I'm doing it because of my love for the story."

Porpora's belief that he resurrected the international fame of Poe, that master of mystery and melancholia, is questioned by some Poe scholars. But they do credit Porpora, a former advertising executive, with rescuing the cemetery at Westminster Presbyterian Church where the writer is buried.

The site needed money and publicity, Porpora recalled. That, he said, is when the idea of the Poe Toaster came to him. The story, as Porpora told it to a local reporter then, was that the tribute had been laid at the grave on Poe's Jan. 19 birthday every year since 1949. Three roses—one for Poe, one for his wife, and one for his mother-in-law—and a bottle of cognac, because Poe loved the stuff even though he couldn't afford to drink it unless someone else was buying. *AP*

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DEADLIEST SINCE WAR BEGAN

Death toll in Iraq bombings rises to 250

BAGHDAD—RESCUERS USED BARE HANDS and shovels Wednesday to claw through the wreckage of clay houses as the death toll rose to at least 250 in a string of suicide bombings against an ancient religious sect, making it the deadliest such attack of the war. The US military blamed al-Qaida in Iraq and a commander calls it an "act of ethnic cleansing."

The victims of Tuesday's coordinated attacks in northwestern Iraq were members of the Yazidis, a small Kurdish-speaking sect that has been the target of Muslim extremists who say sect-member's are blasphemers.

Four suicide truck bombers struck nearly simultaneously in two villages near the Syrian border, causing buildings to crumble and trapping entire families underneath piles of mud bricks and rubble. Entire neighborhoods were leveled.

"This is an act of ethnic cleansing, if you will, almost genocide, when you consider the fact... these Yazidis are really out in a very remote part of Ninevah province where... there is very little security, and really no security required up until this point," Army Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, the commander of US forces in northern Iraq, told CNN.

Mixon said last month that he proposed reducing American troop levels in Ninevah and predicted the province would shift to Iraqi government control as early as this month. It was unclear whether that projection would hold after Tuesday's staggering death tolls.

Zayan Othman, the health minister of the nearby autonomous Kurdish region, said the casualty toll had risen to at least 250 killed and 350 wounded as bodies were pulled from the rubble. That surpassed the previous deadliest attack of the war when 215 people were killed by mortar fire and five car bombs in Baghdad's Shiite Muslim enclave of Sadr City on Nov. 23.

US officials believe insurgents have been regrouping across northern Iraq after being driven from strongholds in and around Baghdad, and the bombings coincided with the start of a major new offensive aimed at pursuing them in the Diyala River Valley.

The carnage dealt a serious blow to the Bush administration's hopes of presenting a positive picture in a progress report on Iraq to be delivered by top US commander Gen. David Petraeus and US Ambassador Ryan Crocker in about four weeks.

Petraeus warned he expected Sunni insurgents to stage more spectacular attacks ahead of the report to US Congress, which is deeply divided over whether to begin withdrawing US troops from Iraq.

"This is way out by the Syrian border, an area where we do think in fact some suicide bombers are able to come across the border. It's an area that is very very remote—quite small villages out there—and it was disheartening for us too obviously," Petraeus told The Associated Press in an interview.

Minority sects such as the Yazidis are especially vulnerable as militants seek new targets to avoid the strict security measures clamped on Baghdad and surrounding areas to stop the violence among warring Sunni and Shiite factions.

Yazidis worship an angel figure considered to be the devil by some Muslims and Christians. Sect-members, who don't believe in hell or evil, deny that.

The Islamic State in Iraq, an al-Qaida front group, distributed leaflets a week ago warning residents near the scene of Tuesday's bombings that an attack was imminent because Yazidis are "anti-Islamic."

The sect also has gained unwanted attention since some members stoned a Yazidi teenager to death in April. She had converted to Islam and fled her family with a Muslim boyfriend. Police said 18-year-old Duaa Khalil Aswad was killed by relatives who disapproved of the match. *AP*

A YAZIDI girl stands on Mount Sinjar, 404 km northwest of Baghdad, Iraq, on Sept. 19, 2005. Yazidis are predominantly ethnic Kurds whose religion blends elements of Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

AP

US Army suicides at highest in 26 years

WASHINGTON—US ARMY SOLDIERS committed suicide last year at the highest rate in 26 years, and more than one-fourth did so while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to a new military report.

The report, obtained by The Associated Press ahead of its release scheduled Thursday, found there were 99 confirmed suicides among active-duty soldiers during 2006, up from 88 the previous year and the highest number since the 102 suicides in 1991 at the time of the Persian Gulf War.

The suicide rate for the Army has fluctuated over the past 26 years, from last year's high of 17.3 per 100,000 to a low of 9.1 per 100,000 in 2001.

Last year, "Iraq was the most common deployment location for both (suicides) and attempts," the report said.

The 99 suicides included 28 soldiers deployed to the two wars and 71 who weren't. About twice as many women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan committed suicide as did women not sent to war, the report said.

Preliminary numbers for he first half of this year indicate the number of suicides could decline across the service in 2007 but increase among troops inside the war zones, officials said.

The increases for 2006 came as Army officials worked to set up a number of new and stronger programs for providing mental health care to a force strained by the longer-than-expected war in Iraq and President George W. Bush's worldwide campaign against terror, entering its sixth year.

Failed personal relationships, legal and financial problems and the stress of their jobs were factors motivating the soldiers to commit suicide, according to the report. *AP*

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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Republic of the Philippines

Supply and Installation of Stand-By Generator Sets with Housing for San Joaquin, Sta. Elena, Riverbanks, Quezon Bridge and Napindan Ferry Station

The PRRC, through the General Appropriations Act of 2007 intends to apply the sum of **Five Million Three Hundred Seventy Eight Thousand Fifty Five Pesos and 25/100 centavos (P5,378,055.25) being the Approved Budget for the Contract** to payments under the contract for **Supply and Installation of Stand-by Generator Sets (PRFS-SG-02).** Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid Opening.

The PRRC now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for Supply and Installation of Stand-By Generator Sets for the Pasig River Ferry Stations (PRFS-SG-02). Delivery of GOODS is required by **October 16, 2007.** The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Activity for the Whole Contract Package
Supply and Installation of 40KVA SG with housing for San Joaquin Ferry Station
Supply and Installation of 40KVA SG with housing for Sta. Elena Ferry Station
Supply and Installation of 40KVA SG with housing for Riverbanks Ferry Station
Supply and Installation of 40KVA SG with housing for Quezon Bridge Ferry Station
Supply and Installation of 40KVA SG with housing for Napindan Ferry Station

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00A.M. to 3:00P.M.:

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
Acting Executive Director Atty. Zoilo L. Andin Jr.
5F DENR Main Building, Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City

The schedule of PRRC-IABAC activities is as follows:

Activity	Date	Time	Venue
1. Receipt of Letter of Intent from prospective Bidders	August 20-24, 2007	From 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	PRRC, 5/F DENR Building, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
2. Complete set of bidding documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of **Thirteen Thousand Pesos** (P13,000.00)	August 20-24, 2007	From 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	PRRC, 5/F DENR Building, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
3. Deadline for Submission of Letter of Intent and Purchase of Complete Set of Bidding Documents	August 24, 2007	3:00 p.m.	PRRC, 5/F, DENR Building, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
4. Site Inspection for Five Stations	August 29, 2007	10:00 a.m.	Meeting Place: PRRC Office
5. Pre-Bid Conference	August 29, 2007	3:00 p.m.	PRRC Conference Room 5F DENR Main Bldg., Visayas Ave., Diliman, Q.C.
6. Deadline for Submission of Bids	September 10, 2007	10:00 a.m.	PRRC Conference Room 5F DENR Main Bldg., Visayas Ave., Diliman, Q.C.
7. Opening of Bids	September 10, 2007	10:30 a.m.	PRRC Conference Room 5F DENR Main Bldg., Visayas Ave., Diliman, Q.C.

The method of payment shall be made only upon a certification by the Head of the Procuring Entity to the effect that the Goods have been rendered or delivered in accordance with the terms of the Contract and have been duly inspected and accepted. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the form and amount stated in the Bid Data Sheet or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.

The PRRC-IABAC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
Acting Executive Director Atty. Zoilo L. Andin Jr.
5F DENR Main Building, Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. No. +632 926 6449
Fax: +632 926 5233

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ZOILO L. ANDIN, JR.**
BAC-Chairperson

(PDI - August 17, 2007)

US to tag Iran Guards as terrorists

TEHRAN—IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARY Guards will grow in strength despite US efforts to isolate the force, a Guards official said in remarks published on Thursday after Washington's threat to brand it a "terrorist" group.

US officials said on Wednesday the United States might soon name the Guards a foreign terrorist group, a move that would enable Washington to target the force's finances.

Washington is leading efforts to isolate Iran for refusing to rein in its nuclear program and comply with UN demands.

The United States says Iran is seeking atomic bombs, a charge Tehran denies, saying it wants only to make electricity.

"Not only would the Revolutionary Guards not be isolated but rather it would actively continue its trend of growth with strength," the head of the political office of the Guards, named only as Javani, was quoted by the daily Jam-e Jam as saying.

"Americans have been fighting the Islamic system for 27 years and create plots against it. But the Revolutionary Guards have made defending the Islamic system its duty and will increase its capabilities in this regard day by day," he added.

Iran experts and diplomats said the squeeze on financing for the Guards also was aimed at pacifying hard-liners within and outside the Bush administration who want military action against Tehran and are frustrated that diplomatic pressure has not worked either on curbing the nuclear program or over Iraq.

Analysts say sanctions on the Guards would be difficult to enforce and the main goal seemed to be to put pressure on Iran by using the designation to press financial institutions to cut ties with Iranian businesses.

The Revolutionary Guards are an ideologically driven force, who see themselves as guardians of the Islamic Republic. They have a separate command structure from the regular military.

As well as being a fighting force, the Guards have a range of business interests, including in energy projects awarded to its engineering subsidiary Khatam al-Anbia.

The United States has imposed sanctions on two Iranian banks, a move which international financiers say have further deterred them from dollar dealings, and even other currency transactions, with the Islamic Republic. *Reuters*

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Center for Health Development – Bicol
BICOL MEDICAL CENTER
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Naga City
Telephone Nos. (054) 473-89-36
E-mail Address: bac_bicolmed@yahoo.com.ph
Fax No. (054) 473-89-36
Website http://www.doh.gov.ph/bmc/index.htm

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

1. The **BICOL MEDICAL CENTER**, through General Appropriations Act intends to apply specified sum for the following projects:
   a) Project : **PROCUREMENT OF VARIOUS HOUSEKEEPING SUPPLIES (rebidding) (IAEB No. 2007-14)**
   Approved Budget for the Contract: **PESOS TWO MILLION NINETY-EIGHT THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE ONLY (PhP2,098,255.00)**
   Sale of Bid Documents August 17 to 23, 2007
   Pre-Bid Conference August 23, 2007 – 9:00 A.M. BMC Library
   Bid Opening : September 4, 2007 – 9:00 A.M. BMC Library
   Price of Bid Documents : ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (PhP1,500.00)
   b) Project : **PROCUREMENT OF VARIOUS MEDICAL GASES (IAEB No. 2007-15)**
   Approved Budget for the Contract: **PESOS TWO MILLION NINE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED ONLY (PhP2,999,700.00)**
   Sale of Bid Documents August 17 to 23, 2007
   Pre-Bid Conference August 23, 2007 – 2:00 P.M. BMC Library
   Bid Opening : September 4, 2007 – 2:00 P.M. BMC Library
   Price of Bid Documents ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (PhP1,500.00)

   Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid Opening
2. The **BICOL MEDICAL CENTER** now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the above stated projects. Deliveries of the goods are stated on the schedule of requirements.
   The description of an eligible bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act, and is restricted to organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, as specified in Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the lowest calculated bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine his responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **BICOL MEDICAL CENTER** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from **8:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon; 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.**, except weekends and Holidays.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents for the project may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee as stated above. The method of payment will be in the form of Cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative
6. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address, date and time stated above. The bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in any of the following forms, in the amount at least equal to and not lower than a percentage of the ABC or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency:

1. **Cash, certified check, cashier's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit**	(1% of ABC)
2. **Bank guarantee**	(1.5% of ABC)
3. **GSIS Surety Bond**	(2.5% of ABC)

   Late bids shall not be accepted.
7. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
8. The **BICOL MEDICAL CENTER** reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Contact Address
BICOL MEDICAL CENTER
Concepcion Pequeña, Naga City
Telephone Nos (054) 473-8936
E-mail Address. bac_bicolmed@yahoo.com.ph
Fax No. (054) 473-8936
Website : http://www.doh.gov.ph/bmc/index.htm

Contact Person
JENSY S. ONG, MD, FPOA
Chairman

(Sgd.) **JENSY S. ONG, MD, FPOA**
Chairman

(PDI–August 17, 2007)

WHAT'S INSIDE

Federer crushes foe; Nadal tumbles /A28

Website: www.inquirer.net/sports

SPORTS

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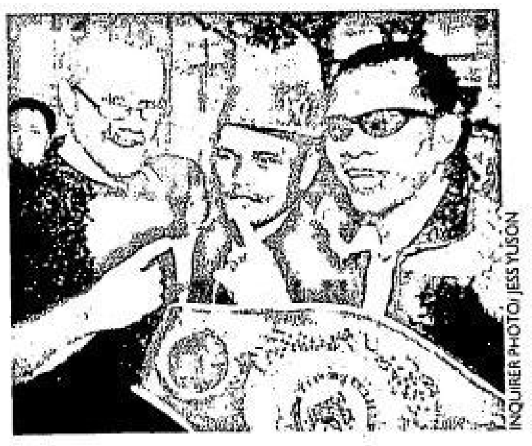

INQUIRER PHOTO/JESS YUSON

Roach links up with Pacquiao

Trainer says there's enough time to prepare, denies rift with 'Pacman'

By Calvin Cordova, Cebu Daily News

CEBU CITY—THERE WAS A MOMENT IN the ring when those who spoke of a rumored rift between Manny Pacquiao and Freddie Roach would have found vindication.

While the Filipino boxing hero worked the mitts with his equally noted trainer, Pacquiao accidentally hit Roach's abdomen hard enough to force a loud "ouch" from the American, and a chorus of laughter from the throng that packed the gym.

"It was a pretty strong punch and he hit me in one of my broken ribs, which has yet to heal completely," said Roach. "I held my breath there for a while."

Beyond that accidental punch, though, all was well between boxer and trainer as they began preparing for a monumental rematch with Mexican Marco Antonio Barrera.

In front of 300 people who squeezed into the Rex "Wakee" Salud International Gym in Punta Princesa, Labangon—some of whom even climbed an eight-foot wall to catch a glimpse of the Pacman at work—Pacquiao went shadow boxing and worked the mitts with Roach for seven rounds, wowing everyone with his trademark lightning hand speed and nifty footwork.

It was Pacquiao's second day of workout here and his first with Roach, who arrived at 10:30 a.m. yesterday.

Pacquiao faces Barrera on Oct. 6 in Las Vegas and Roach believes there is still enough time to prepare.

"Time is not a problem at all," said the American. "Although we just started with our training, Manny has been practicing on his own and I'm going to push him hard everyday so he will be in a great shape."

Roach, who hurt his ribs after getting hit by a wayward punch from Bernard Hopkins during their weigh-in melee with Winky Wright last July, will close the training sessions to the public on weekdays and will open it only during Saturdays to avoid distractions.

"We have to stay focused because it's going to be a hard fight," Roach said. "If we will take Barrera lightly, then that's the only way that we're going to lose. I won't let distractions get in our way."

In their first encounter, Pacquiao scored an 11th round technical knockout victory over Barrera, but Roach warned the Filipino boxer of a tougher fight.

Pacquiao's Cebu training was said to have been forced by a spat with Roach. Roach denied that report.

"We have no problem whatsoever," said Roach.

"I can't remember his name but it was a Filipino journalist who spread the news," Roach added. "I talked to him [about] where he got the information but he said he just heard it. I asked him where did he hear it but he could not give any answer. There are people who are trying to sow trouble but I won't allow that to happen."

WHAT RIFT?: Manny Pacquiao works the mitts with American trainer Freddie Roach (above), who arrived at the Naia yesterday with WBO bantam champ Gerry Peñalosa and Diosdado Gabi (top right).

CDN PHOTO/TONEE DESPOJO

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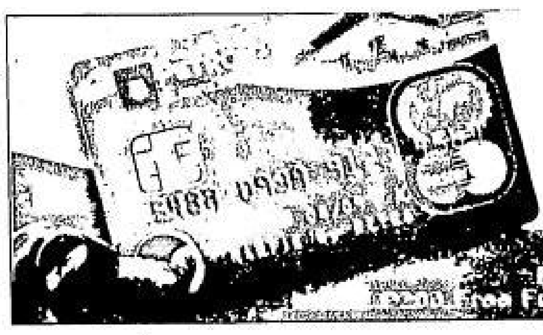

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Go sacks top Patafa coach

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

OUT OF SEAG?: Ralph Waldy Soguilon

Soguilon goes under knife

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TROUBLE IS BREWING AT PHILIPpine Amateur Track and Field Association (Patafa).

A few days after its most promising athlete, Ralph Waldy Soguilon, broke his leg in an "improbable" track accident, athletics chief Go Teng Kok suspended indefinitely his top coach, Jojo Posadas, husband and mentor of track legend Elma Muros-Posadas.

Go described the suspension as "an internal problem," citing the complaint of 31 coaches and athletes against Posadas, including allegations of "incompetence, back-biting and disrespect."

"I can't just put this aside because coaches and athletes complained against him," said Go, who gave Posadas 10 days to explain his side.

Posadas, who also molded the careers of Southeast Asian Games champions Lerma Bulauitan, Marestela Torres and Mercedita Manipol, denied the accusations against him.

He said he would ask Go to call a meeting where he would face his accusers.

"They are the ones who need to prove these accusations, especially because all of them are not under me anymore," said Posadas, who now has only three athletes under his wing—Manipol, Nelbert Ducusion (5,000m-10,000m) and Emma Mangango (1,500m-5,000m).

"I don't know what happened here because I have been loyal to him and to the Patafa for the past 17 years," said Posadas.

Among the complainants are Bulauitan, Torres and Arneil Ferreira. The majority of the disgruntled athletes is based in Baguio City and doesn't have direct contact with Posadas.

Go said the development won't affect the athletes' bid to duplicate their nine-gold medal showing in the 2005 SEAG.

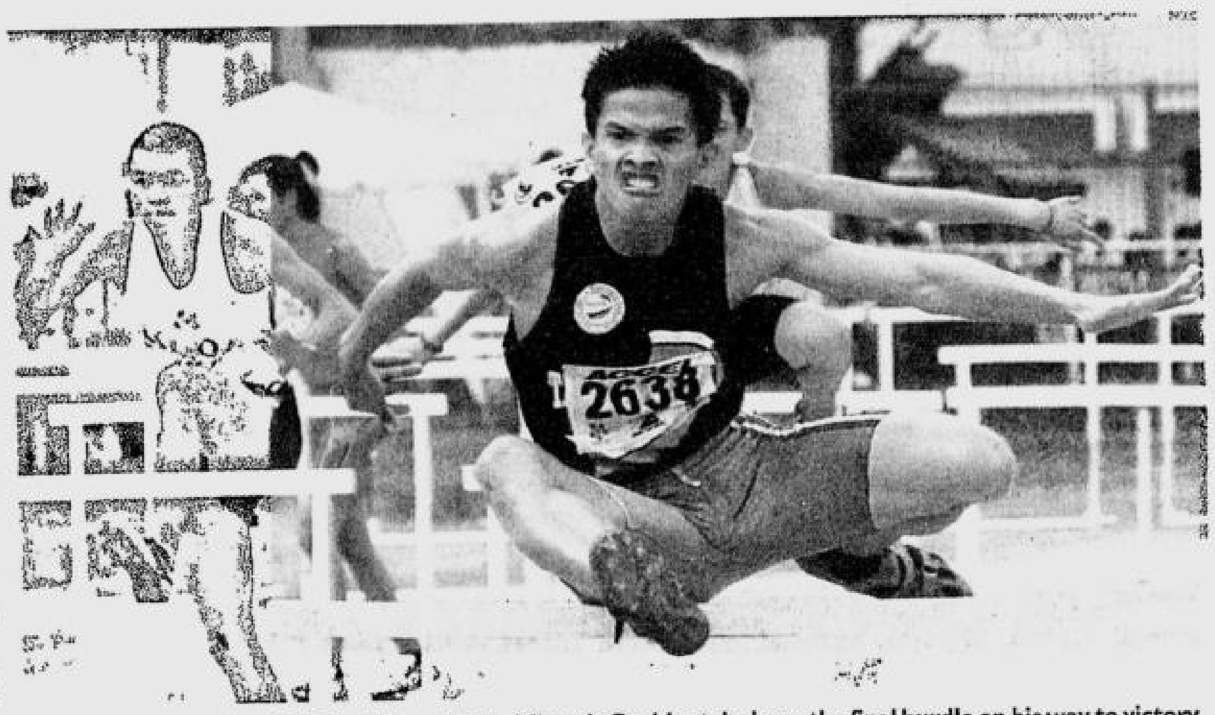
But Soguilon, national record holder in the 100 and 200 meters, won't be among the gold-medal hopefuls this time after he broke his right leg while training at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex Monday.

Considered as a shoo-in for the SEAG 200m gold, Soguilon underwent a successful operation at the Medical City Wednesday but his chances of competing for the December games are in doubt.

MINDA OLYMPIC FEST

Koronadal archer nails 3 more golds

By June Navarro



CARLITO Sumondong (2638) of Tangub City, Misamis Occidental, clears the final hurdle on his way to victory in the boys' 100m hurdles at the Don Gregorio Pelaez Sports Center in Cagayan de Oro City. RAFFY LERMA

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—ROXANNE JANE LORIA of Koronadal City captured three more gold medals in archery even as Bukidnon installed itself as a heavyweight in athletics yesterday in the Mindanao qualifying of the Philippine Olympic Festival.

A day after snaring the sport's first gold of the games, Loria added the girls' 30-meter recurve, standard and Olympic rounds to her title collection and installed the daughter of a farmer from South Cotabato as the most bemedalled athlete so far.

Loria's combined golden efforts of 247 points in the 30 meters and 262 points in the 50m automatically translated into another gold for the Koronadal Comprehensive High School senior in the standard round.

Koronadal duplicated its 1-2-3 finish in the 50m recurve the other day in the 30 meters, with Grace Layson placing second and Clarissa Malapascua third. Layson garnered 191 points and Malapascua had 176.

In the standard round, Loria amassed 509 points while Malapascua and Layson wound up with 363 and 344 points, respectively.

Loria's fourth medal in the Olympic round saw her routing Charmaine Postrano of Misamis Oriental, 88-22, in the final round of the 12-arrow event. Misamis Oriental's Maycel Abatayo copped the bronze after tallying 59 points in the semifinals.

"Those victories came as a surprise," said the 15-year-old Loria in Filipino. "I didn't expect to win all the events."

Koronadal coach Florentino Basadre has been implementing a course based on the Fita (international archery federation) program, which focuses more on physical training than shooting arrows on the field.

Meanwhile, Bukidnon seized two gold medals on the first day of track and field competitions.

Junel Languido of Malaybalay, Bukidnon, topped the men's 5,000m run in 15 minutes and 41 seconds while Ramil Neri timed 17:12 to win the boys' race.

Two more golds loomed for Bukidnon following the strong performances of Edwin Sanchez and the Roridel Camong in the semifinals of the boys' 800m and women's 100m, respectively.

Sanchez registered the fastest time of 2:09.3 in the 800m while Roridel Camong burned the track in the century dash in 13.7 seconds.

Jollibee Gemora of GenSan and Zamboanga's Grace delos Santos grabbed a piece of the limelight by topping the women's and girls' 3,000m, respectively. Gemora timed 11:42.0 while De los Santos did 11:24.6.

Cagayan de Oro struck for two golds in the under-17 division of table tennis and two more in chess while Misamis Oriental took the baseball gold on top of two victories in chess.

CDO's Xyjan Ramos took the gold in the men's table tennis by virtue of a higher tiebreak quotient over teammate Kim Bryan Hernane and Sultan Kudarat's Gabby Villan. All three had finished with 6-1 records in the eliminations.

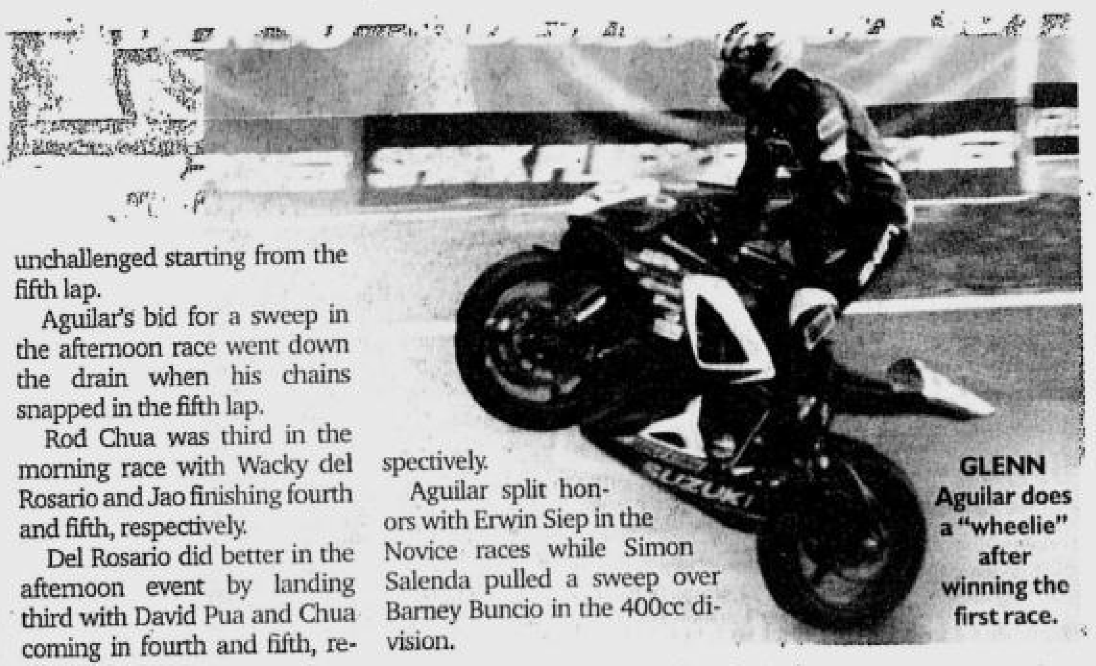
Ian Lariba swept all seven games in the distaff side with teammate Gloen Abales settling for silver and Catherine Luz Benoya of Misamis Or. copping bronze.

Winning chess golds for the host city were Loreshyl Cuizon (women's Open) and Lennon Hart Salgados (boys' under-14). Antonio Chavez (men's under-20) and Sitie Halia Sabo (women's under-20) triumphed for Misamis Oriental.

Elias Banguiran and Anne Mae Nebato of Gen. Santos City secured the other chess titles by topping the men's Open and girls' under-14 events, respectively.

Over at the 4th Infantry Division field, Misamis Or. ripped Cagayan De Oro, 9-5, to win the baseball gold.

Jao, Aguilar split honors in 4th leg



GLENN Aguilar does a "wheelie" after winning the first race.

ROSARIO, BATANGAS—DEFENDING champion Jolet Jao of Shell Advance-Kawasaki and Glenn Aguilar split the two Expert races in the fourth leg, even as Maico Buncio kept the overall lead in the 2007 Shell Advance Superbikes Series at the Batangas Racing Circuit recently.

Aguilar won the nine-lap race in the morning with a time of 13 minutes and 50.208 seconds with Jao bouncing back in the afternoon, winning in 17:03.273.

Buncio of Yamaha finished second in both races and kept his grip of the solo leadership with 176 points, 13 ahead of Jao (163).

Jao and Aguilar hooked up in a tight duel at the start of both races but separate problems bogged down the ace riders.

Jao's bid was derailed by fuel injection problems in the first race, allowing Aguilar to race unchallenged starting from the fifth lap.

Aguilar's bid for a sweep in the afternoon race went down the drain when his chains snapped in the fifth lap.

Rod Chua was third in the morning race with Wacky del Rosario and Jao finishing fourth and fifth, respectively.

Del Rosario did better in the afternoon event by landing third with David Pua and Chua coming in fourth and fifth, respectively.

Aguilar split honors with Erwin Siep in the Novice races while Simon Salenda pulled a sweep over Barney Buncio in the 400cc division.

Roach: How Barrera could avoid defeat

BARE EYE

Recab Trinidad

LOS ANGELES—HIS BAGS WERE packed, Freddie Roach was ready to go but, cornered, the celebrated trainer reluctantly bared the exclusive plot on how Manny Pacquiao could again stop Mexican Marco Antonio Barrera in their scheduled rematch in Las Vegas.

You see, there are only two people in the boxing world who can claim exclusive knowledge of the multimillion dollar secret on how Pacquiao could be stopped.

These two fellows are, of course, Roach and Pacquiao himself.

Now, this may sound odd. But didn't Roach, in divulging their battle plans for the Oct. 6 rematch at the Mandalay Bay Resort in Nevada, was also giving tips on how to beat Pacquiao?

You're free to agree or not.

But it goes without saying that Barrera will next be working to offset the three winning points generously delivered by Roach from his counter at the Wild Card gym, a few hours before departing for Manila Tuesday.

* * *

In order to ensure victory, Roach said that:

1) They will make Barrera work fulltime every minute of each round;

2) They will push him harder, because Barrera cannot fight going back;

3) They will emphasize on more right hooks, as these should prove totally alien to Barrera, considering Pacquiao only had his left as main weapon in their last encounter.

Roach explained: "It's no secret Barrera cannot fight effectively for three full minutes of every round. He had to slow down, pace himself. Otherwise he would easily fag out. We will give him hell and make him work every second of each round. The guy doesn't know how to fight going back, so we will double the pressure. As to the third point, if he got stopped cold by Manny's left hand the last time, how does he hope to cope with Manny's new killer right hooks?

* * *

That's it. Barrera can deny, but he will definitely take note and make adjustments based on these pointers.

Of course, Barrera would be too naive to believe every word of what Roach had to divulge about their winning plot.

The Roach-Pacquiao tandem definitely has more aces up the sleeves, deadly secrets that the trainer would no longer agree to bare.

The Barrera camp cannot also retort and say Roach was only bluffing.

Barrera would be wise to heed the open warning because, as shown in Roach's frantic haste to catch Pacquiao in Cebu and resume their stalled regimen for the Oct. 6 blockbuster, the Filipino boxing superhero should again be a blazing KO machine in his next fight.

* * *

Of course, Pacquiao also has to wrestle hard with a late calendar.

"We're late," Roach admitted, explaining they had originally planned to use eight full weeks to bring Pacquiao to peak perfection.

At least, Roach has assured there's enough time to make up for the lost minutes, caused by Pacquiao's mysterious departure for Manila on Friday, after he bolted Wild Card.

Roach would not comment on claims coming from Manila, after Pacquiao finally emerged from hiding, that the abrupt departure by the national boxing hero was part of an original plot for him to train longer in the Philippines.

"He was complaining of the heat, but he chose it there," Roach said.

So the Cebu training for Pacquiao was not part of the normal process?

"I've never expected something normal, in the first place," Roach stated half-smiling.

* * *

***(SMILES:** A full-blast Elvis Presley fiesta is set on Sunday, Aug. 19, at the Blue Wave Restos, on Edsa and Macapagal Avenue, starting at 4 p.m. Highlight of the commemoration of The King's 30th death anniversary is an Elvis contest, open to all copycats no younger than 14 years old, announced Chito Bertol of the Elvis Presley Friendship Club, Phils.-International... There's a rejoinder from the Billiards and Snooker Congress of the Philippines to Alex Pagulayan's detailed protest over his ouster from the Guinness Pool Tour. This will be printed next time due to space constraints.)*

SPORTSWATCH

Top prospects cleared for PBA Draft Sunday

THE LIST OF PLAYERS SEEKING PHILIPpine Basketball Association entry in the coming season dwindled to 44 from 47 at the final day of declaration yesterday, but the potential marquee names were cleared for the Draft set Sunday.

Seen as potential No. 1 picks were Samigue Eman, JC Intal, Joe Devance, Ryan Reyes, JR Quinahan and Ken Bono, who were all declared eligible for pro stints.

Welcoat picks first in the pool with coach Leo Austria still to decide on the 6-foot-9 Eman or the Fil-American Devance, or opt for a tested scorer in Intal.

Eman showed his might inside the paint with 12 rebounds in a futile effort for the white team during Day Two of the PBA Rookie Camp at the Blue Eagle gym even as Quinahan totally outplayed him with 18 points and 10 boards in a 57-52 win for Blue.

Reyes, another Fil-American, issued eight assists and had five steals to back up Quinahan, and he may turn out to be the first guard to be picked from the pool. ***Musong R. Castillo***

San Beda-Taytay wins

SAN BEDA-TAYTAY AND RAMON Magsaysay-Manila ruled their respective high school team divisions at the close of the 2007 Milo All-Students Tennis Championships over the weekend at the Philam Homes Tennis Club in Quezon City.

Bedans Jeson Patrombon and Dheo Talatayod combined forces in turning back eventual second placer Jose Rizal University, 2-1, then blanked Ateneo, 2-0, to bag the high school boys' team title.

Patrombon, who was voted MVP, and Talatayod shared the championship trophy with teammates Kevin Mamawal and Angelo Antonio in the CTW-organized Milo netfest which is celebrating its 20th year.

Macy Gonzales and JV Custodio dominated all their rivals as Ramon Magsaysay-Manila blanked Poveda, 3-0; whipped San Beda-Taytay, 2-0; and edged Assumption, 2-1 to top the high school girls' team event,

Philam Homes Tennis Club officer Albee Chu awarded the trophies and medals to the winners.

Pasay cockfest today

A P150,000 PRIZE AWAITS THE CHAMPions in today's Pasay City Cockpit's special 3-cock derby featuring more than 60 fights.

The event will be hosted by Cito Mansala, Jun Bonon and Gerry Maningas, who pegged the entry fee at P5,500. Another 3-cock event sizzles on Aug. 24 with Lito and Arne Zarate and Dick Olano as hosts.

Meanwhile, the Battle of the Big Boys 7-stag derby unfolds on Aug. 31 at the Pasay City Cockpit. For details, call 843 -1746, 816-6750 and 843-1890

Fastest Win event at SJC

SMALL-TIME COCKERS AND HACKFIGHT enthusiasts of Metro Manila will dispute the guaranteed prize of P300,000 today as the Magic Five Fastest Win One-Cock Ulutan gets under way at San Juan Coliseum.

With at least 100 fights lined up, competition starts at 8 a.m., according to pit manager Renato Shio.

The fastest win champion will get P50,000. The first 10 winners and last 10 winners will get one sack of rice each.

For inquiries, call 725-5369 and 725-6563.

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Qrt/Tri)—Ocean Cookie (6), Gun Powder (2), Mr. Lucas (5), Mutiara (1)

Race 2—(Qrt/Tri)—Sophie's Magic (5), Alexis Magic (4), Ghurka (6), Princess Camille (3)

Race 3—(Qrt/Tri)—Given (1), Brown Carpet (3), Dream Rose (6), Boss Lady (4)

Race 4—(Tri)—Armidale (4), Please Do (1), Mamaya (3)

Race 5—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Reklamador (4), Sa Wakas (2), Shifty (3), War General (6), Best Hand (1)

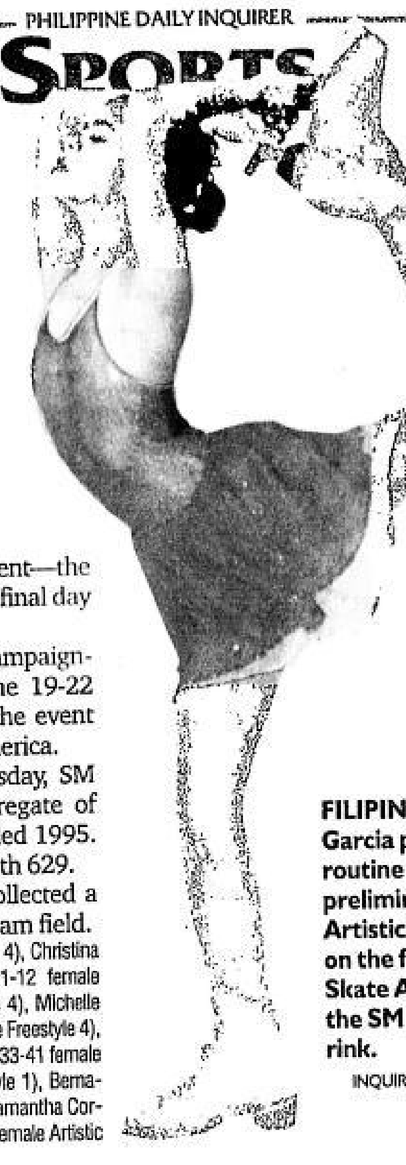
Race 6—(Tri)—Hear Me (1), Barwanawest (3), Special Edition (2)

Race 7—(Xtreme Heat (2), Quick Play (1), Znarf (4), Golden Song (3)

Race 8—(Qrt/Tri)—Legendary (2), Iron Heart (5), Flying Jojie (3), Tereshkova (6)

Race 9—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Glance of The Wind/Flame of The Wind (5), Lady Commander (3), Kalmia (6), Southern Charm (2), Bilinggaling (9), When We're Flying (4)

Diaz bags 6th skating gold



FILIPINA Mylyn Garcia performs her routine in the preliminaries of the Artistic Freestyle I on the fourth day of Skate Asia 2007 at the SM Mall of Asia rink.

INQUIRER PHOTO/ RYAN LIM

CARI KRISTINE DIAZ RULED THE FEMALE Freestyle 4 yesterday to move within a win of sweeping her seven events in the 2007 Skate Asia at the SM Mall of Asia, even as SM Megamall continued to lord it over the field.

Diaz, back after an eight-year absence, bested her three rivals to top the 21-23 category of Freestyle 4 and raise her gold medal haul to six, counting her victories in Hockey Shooting, Hockey Skating, Solo Compulsory, mixed Jump And Spin, Solo Program and Production.

"I'll continue to do what I have already started," Diaz, a 23-year-old Psychology graduate at St. Paul-QC, said.

Diaz last saw action in the 1999 International Ice Skating Institute (IISI) World Recreational Championship in San Jose, California, but has been diligently training at the rinks of SM Megamall where she also works as a full-time coach:

"I really gave everything out because this is my first performance in the last six years aside from the 1999 IISI tournament in the United States," said Diaz, who started to skate at age 5.

She guns for the sweep in her final event—the 19-above Team Competition—set on the final day of the championships.

Diaz's feat was matched by veteran campaigner John Carlo Ingeniero, who ruled the 19-22 male Freestyle 4, for his sixth gold in the event sanctioned by Ice Skating Institute of America.

At the end of skating action Wednesday, SM Megamall stayed on top with an aggregate of 5492.5 points while SM Southmall pooled 1995. Indonesia's Skyrink-Jakarta is at third with 629.

Hong Kong's Festival Walk Glacier collected a total of 614 points for fourth in the 16-team field.

Other winners: Sabrina Tso (9-10 female Freestyle 4), Christina Marie Cordero (11-12 Freestyle 4), Monica Su (11-12 female Freestyle 4), Angelica Elmido (14-17 female Freestyle 4), Michelle Priskilla (13 female Freestyle 4), Kan Ka Kit (11-14 male Freestyle 4), Talitha Licauco (27-30 female Freestyle 4), Xu Jingwei (33-41 female Freestyle 4), Michaela Lee (6-7 female Artistic Freestyle 1), Bernadine Poulette Umali (8-9 female Artistic Freestyle 1), Samantha Corrales (10 female Freestyle 1), Jacquelyn Christian (11 female Artistic freestyle 1), Esther Leon (12-13 female Freestyle 1).

Illam Central gains Int'l pool s'finals

THE PHILIPPINES' ILLAM CENTRAL from Makati pulled off a 6-1 win over Latin America bet Elrod Hendricks West LL from the Virgin Islands on Wednesday to snare the first semifinal berth in the international pool of the 2007 Junior League Baseball World Series in Taylor, Michigan.

But other RP squads found the opposition too tough to handle in their respective World Series tournaments in Kalamazoo, Michigan and Kirkland, Washington.

A victory against winless Ukraine in its final group match late last night would give the Illam boys, who are the Asia-Pacific representatives, the No. 1 seed in the pool heading into the semifinals.

The champion from the United States pool, currently paced by US-West squad Pearl City LL of Hawaii (3-0), and the winner from the international pool will clash in the finals on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Illam's Big League softbelles registered a resounding 11-1 whipping of Poland, before absorbing a 1-2 loss at the hands of host District 2 that relegated them to a battle for fifth place with US-Central early today.

In Kirkland, the powerhouse US-East team Harvestraw New York dealt the Bacolod-Negros team an 8-0 shutout and wrapped up the top spot in the group.

All seemed lost for the Bacoleñas until US-West bet California nipped US-Central team Boardman Ohio, 16-15.

That gave the Bacolod team a ray of hope. But the RP girls would need to beat Boardman early Friday, while giving up fewer runs as possible, to clinch the second semifinal berth in the pool.

With US-West at 2-2 and both Bacolod-Negros and US-Central at 1-2, organizers may employ the fewer-runs-allowed rule to determine the No. 2 team. *Cedelf P. Tupas, Inquirer Visayas*

Knights, Heavy Bombers in crucial 'NC' duel today

STANDINGS	W	L
San Beda	8	1
Letran	7	2
Jose Rizal	6	3
Mapua	5	6
S Sebastian	4	5
Perpetual	2	7
St. Benilde	1	9

GAMES TODAY
(*The Arena, San Juan*)
2 p.m.—Perpetual Help vs SSC (Srs)
4 p.m.—Letran vs Jose Rizal (Srs)

LETRAN SHOOTS FOR A FINAL FOUR SLOT against a Jose Rizal team on a five-game roll today in the NCAA men's basketball tournament at the Arena in San Juan.

The Knights (7-2) are actually assured of a playoff berth for the semifinals and a win in the 4 p.m. game gives Letran the No. 2 slot behind defending champion San Beda.

But the Knights face rough sailing since the Heavy Bombers (6-3), apart from enjoying a five-game winning streak, have already beaten the Intramuros-based cagers in the first round, 79-75.

"We expect a close game, it's going to be tough," said Letran coach Louie Alas, whose team is reeling from an 89-82 upset at the hands of Mapua last week.

Jose Rizal coach Ariel Vanguardia is wary of a Letran comeback although he noted that his charges are raring to snatch their first Final Four slot since 2003.

A possible semifinal stint is also the target of San Sebastian when it collides with Perpetual Help earlier at 2 p.m.

The Stags are currently in fifth place (4-5) and need to win all their remaining games to edge out the idle Mapua Cardinals (5-6) for the last spot in the next round.

San Sebastian ended a three-game losing skein with a 75-58 victory over St. Benilde last Wednesday while the Altas, 83-64 losers to Mapua in their last outing, are hoping to snap out of a four-game tailspin.

The Cardinals and the Stags will be out of reach of the Altas if they both reach six wins. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

Eagles try to stop skid tomorrow

STANDINGS	W	L
UE	8	0
UST	5	3
La Salle	5	3
FEU	5	3
Ateneo	4	4
NU	4	4
Adamson	1	7
UP	0	8

GAMES SATURDAY
(*Ninoy Aquino Stadium*)
2 p.m.—Ateneo vs UP (Srs)
4 p.m.—National U vs Adamson (Srs)

SKIDDING SQUADS clash at the resumption of the UAAP men's basketball tournament tomorrow at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

The Ateneo Blue Eagles will try to halt a three-game slide against the winless University of the Philippines Maroons at 2 p.m, even as the National U Bulldogs shoot for their first back-to-back triumphs against the Adamson Falcons at 4 p.m.

League officials called off the 2 p.m. game yesterday between the University of Santo Tomas Tigers and the Maroons and the 4 p.m. tussle between the La Salle Green Archers and the Bulldogs due to typhoon "Egay."

A new playdate will be announced soon.

Games postponed last Aug. 9 had been rescheduled to Sept. 13 at the Cuneta Astrodome, with the league-leading University of the East Warriors and Far Eastern Tamaraws clashing at 4 p.m. after the 2 p.m. match between the Adamson Falcons and the Eagles.

Meanwhile, Rossan Marzan of the UE Amazons and Marichu Bacaro of the UST Tigresses compiled a league-best 70.57 statistical points (SPs) to emerge as the top women cagers at the end of the first round.

Bacaro powered the Tigresses to a third-best 5-2 record after leading the league in points, assists and steals for an average of 18.4 ppg, 3.1 apg and 3.1 spg.

While the Amazons only have two wins in seven games, rebound-leader Marzan zoomed to the top spot by norming 14.6 points, 17.4 boards and 2.7 assists. *Jasmine W. Payo*

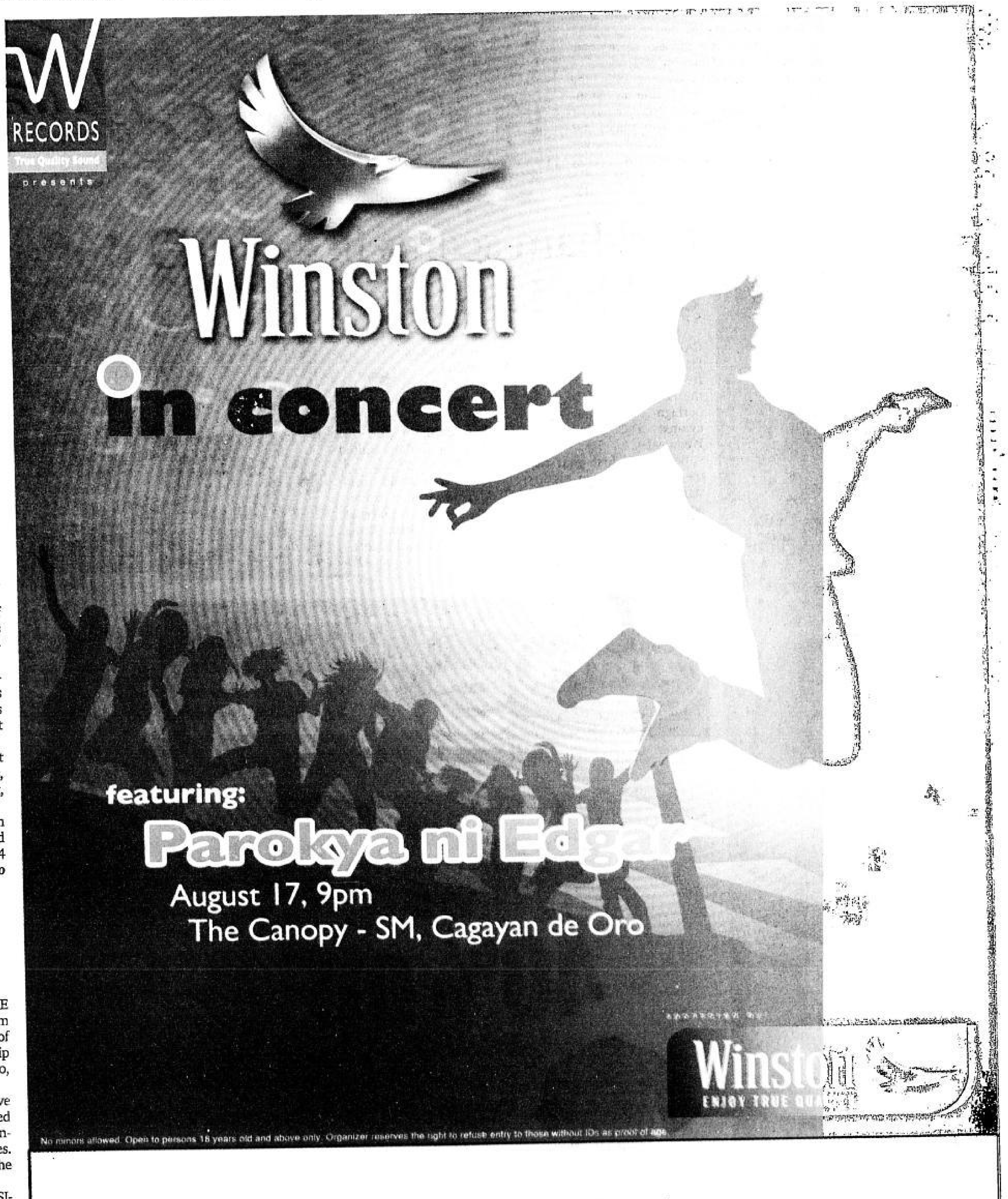
Bayron shares 7th after a 70

JAY BAYRON CLOSED OUT WITH A BIRDIE to cap a one-under-par 70 that dropped him from fifth to joint seventh after three rounds of the 2007 Scratch Players Golf Championship at the Del Rio Country Club course in Modesto, California Wednesday.

Bayron, who sizzled with a 65 to move within four shots off the pace Tuesday, looked headed for another explosive round by gunning down three birdies in the first nine holes. But he fumbled with a double bogey on the 12th and dropped another shot on the 17th.

With a 54-hole output of 208, the ICTSI-backed Bayron slid to a share of seventh with Ohio's Kyle Moore even as Australia's Rick Kulacz shot the tournament's best of 64 to pull away by six with a 199.

Mike Bibat failed to make the 30-man final round with a three-over 74 for 222 in the 72-hole tournament, which drew some of the world's finest players priming up for next week's US Amateurs in San Francisco.



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SPORTS

Federer crushes rival; injured Nadal tumbles

MASON, OHIO—TOP-RANKED Roger Federer downed French qualifier Julien Benneteau 6-3, 6-3 on Wednesday to cruise into the third round of the Western & Southern Financial Group Masters.

Other top seeds did not fare so well, with No. 2 Rafael Nadal, looking nothing like the second-ranked player in the world, and Novak Djokovic, who last week beat the top three players in the world, marked a day of upsets and injuries.

Nadal—his right knee wrapped and his left wrist aching—retired in the second set of his match against Juan Monaco of Argentina.

Fourth-seeded Djokovic, who beat Andy Roddick, Nadal and Federer en route to winning the Rogers Cup—the first time anyone beat the world's top three in a tournament since Boris Becker did it in 1994 at Stockholm—fell to Carlos Moya 6-4, 6-1.

"I didn't feel nothing when I touched the racket," Nadal said. "I didn't have power in the legs. It was a strange feeling."

Indeed, he never looked comfortable in the early going, barely managing to hold serve twice. He failed to win a point in his third service game, hitting game point off the edge of his racket into the stands.

Nadal had been bothered by a sore right knee since his Wimbledon final loss to Federer.

Australian Lleyton Hewitt was on the court only 51 minutes against eighth-seeded Richard Gasquet.

Hewitt won the first set 6-1 and was leading 3-2 in the second when the Frenchman retired with a blister.

Altogether, six seeded players were beaten Wednesday, joining three already gone. Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain beat sixth-seeded Fernando Gonzalez of Chile 6-2, 7-6 (7); Nicolas Almagro of Spain beat 11th-seeded Ivan Ljubicic of Croatia 6-4, 6-4; Sam Querry beat 13th-seeded Mikhail Youzhny of Russia 5-7, 6-3, 6-4. *AP*

ROGER FEDERER: Solid match AFP

Ref pleads guilty of betting in NBA

NEW YORK—A FORMER NAtional Basketball Association referee pleaded guilty on Wednesday to federal charges in a betting scandal in which he gambled on games that he officiated, prosecutors said.

Tim Donaghy earlier on Wednesday turned himself over to authorities and admitted his role in the match-fixing scheme that rocked the NBA and threatens the integrity of results from the past two years.

The 40-year-old referee pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and conspiracy to transmit gambling information. He faces up to 25 years in jail for the scheme, which was believed to have Mafia ties.

"The participation of an official of one of the world's premier sports leagues in an illegal betting scheme involving his own sport demonstrates the corrupting allure of easy money," US attorney Roslynn Mauskopf said.

Donaghy resigned from the league on July 9 after an FBI investigation led to accusations that he gambled on NBA games and provided confidential information about games to others who could make wagers based on the inside knowledge. *AFP*

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KOBE BRYANT: Brings smile to children

Kobe visits Manila Sept. 5

CAGE SUPERSTAR KOBE BRYANT IS ARriving in Manila on Sept. 5 as the first stop of his five-city tour of Asia.

This was announced yesterday by Nike, which will be hosting the main man of the Los Angeles Lakers in the National Basketball Association.

Dubbed the Kobe Supernatural Asia Tour, it will also make stops in Taipei on Sept. 6, Hong Kong on Sept. 7, Shanghai on Sept. 8 and Beijing on Sept. 9 and 10. It was organized to give Kobe the opportunity to work with kids throughout the region and inspire them to energize and improve their basketball game.

Mentally and physically, Kobe is a force to reckon with on the court. He follows a core set of values that can be seen through his focused training and mental toughness that helped him score 50 points or more ten times last season.

"I'm looking forward to returning to Asia to see the progress the kids have made since my visit last summer and to train those I didn't meet," said Kobe. "I liked what I saw then and I'm planning to work the kids even harder this time to give them a better sense of my training regiment."

Off the court, Kobe has long believed in giving back to the community. Whether in LA, Philadelphia or throughout the world, Kobe continues to bring smiles to children's faces through his charity work. During the Tour, Kobe will be participating in charity events with his fans.

Additionally during the Tour, Nike and Kobe will introduce a new version of the Kobe II, part of the Fall 2007 basketball footwear product line. The product will be launch throughout Asia beginning Sept. 6.

For details on the Kobe Tour, log on to www.nike.com.ph.

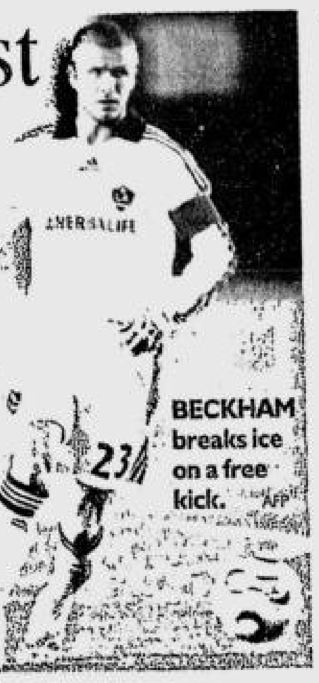
Beckham scores first goal for LA Galaxy

CARSON, CALIFORNIA—David Beckham scored on a free kick in the 27th minute of the Los Angeles Galaxy's SuperLiga semifinal game against D.C. United on Wednesday.

Beckham's first goal with the Galaxy came in his first start since joining the Major League Soccer team on July 13. He had played just 37 minutes in two previous games because of a nagging left ankle injury.

Beckham played a total of 63 minutes before heading to the bench. He received a yellow card in the 18th minute for fouling United's Jaime Moreno.

The 32-year-old midfielder was named captain for the match in place of Landon Donovan, who held that title earlier this season. *AP*



BECKHAM breaks ice on a free kick. AFP

Bonds smashes homer No. 759

ATLANTA, GEORGIA—Major League Baseball all-time home run king Barry Bonds smashed his 759th career round-tripper here Wednesday but his San Francisco Giants were 6-3 losers to the Atlanta Braves.

BONDS AFP

Bonds, whose links to the Balco steroids scandal have dimmed enthusiasm over his achievement, stretched his record total to a new level with a leadoff blast in the sixth inning.

The 43-year-old outfielder sent Braves starter Tim Hudson's first offering over the centerfield fence to boost his total to four beyond the old mark set by retired Braves star Hank Aaron.

Bonds blasted his 403-foot homer just to the left of an image of Aaron to pull the Giants into a 2-2 deadlock.

Bonds improved to 11-for-27 (.407) with five homers and seven runs batted in for his career against Hudson, snapping the hurler's 66-inning homerless streak. He last surrendered a homer to Boston slugger David Ortiz on June 19.

Hudson went on the record the victory, however.

Bonds is hitting .280 with 25 homers and 57 runs batted in for the season.

And the homer mark was not the only major league record extended in the game. Braves manager Bobby Cox, who set the major league mark for ejections in Tuesday's contest, added another expulsion to his record run.

Cox was tossed out in the third inning first base umpire Angel Hernandez for arguing a balk call against Hudson. *AFP*

Susilo stuns Chen

KUALA LUMPUR—China's third seed Chen Jin became the second big-name casualty in 24 hours at the world badminton championships on Thursday, when he lost his third round match with Singapore's Ronny Susilo, 21-19 21-14.

SUSILO REUTERS

On Wednesday, Olympic champion Taufik Hidayat of Indonesia had exited the tournament after losing in three sets to unseeded Indian Anup Sridhar.

Chen had been in action late on Wednesday in a second round game against Malaysia's Roslin Hashim and expressed unhappiness at returning to court in the early afternoon of the following day.

Susilo, seeded 11, said the quick turnaround had "probably" been a factor in the Chinese loss but added: "I have prepared very well for this tournament and I think I played at my best."

In the 2004 Athens Olympics, Susilo famously beat world number one Lin Dan in the opening round of the Games' badminton tournament but has rarely hit the heights since.

In the quarterfinals, he plays either sixth-seed Chen Yu of China or South Korea's Park Sung-hwan, seeded 14.

Titleholder Lin was in action later on Thursday, playing 15th seeded Dutchman Dicky Palyama in their third round clash.

While Chen Jin suffered there were no such problems for top seeded Chinese woman Zhang Ning in her third round game with Indonesia's Maria Kristin Yulianti.

The 32-year-old Olympic champion brushed her opponent aside, 21-10 21-9. *Reuters*

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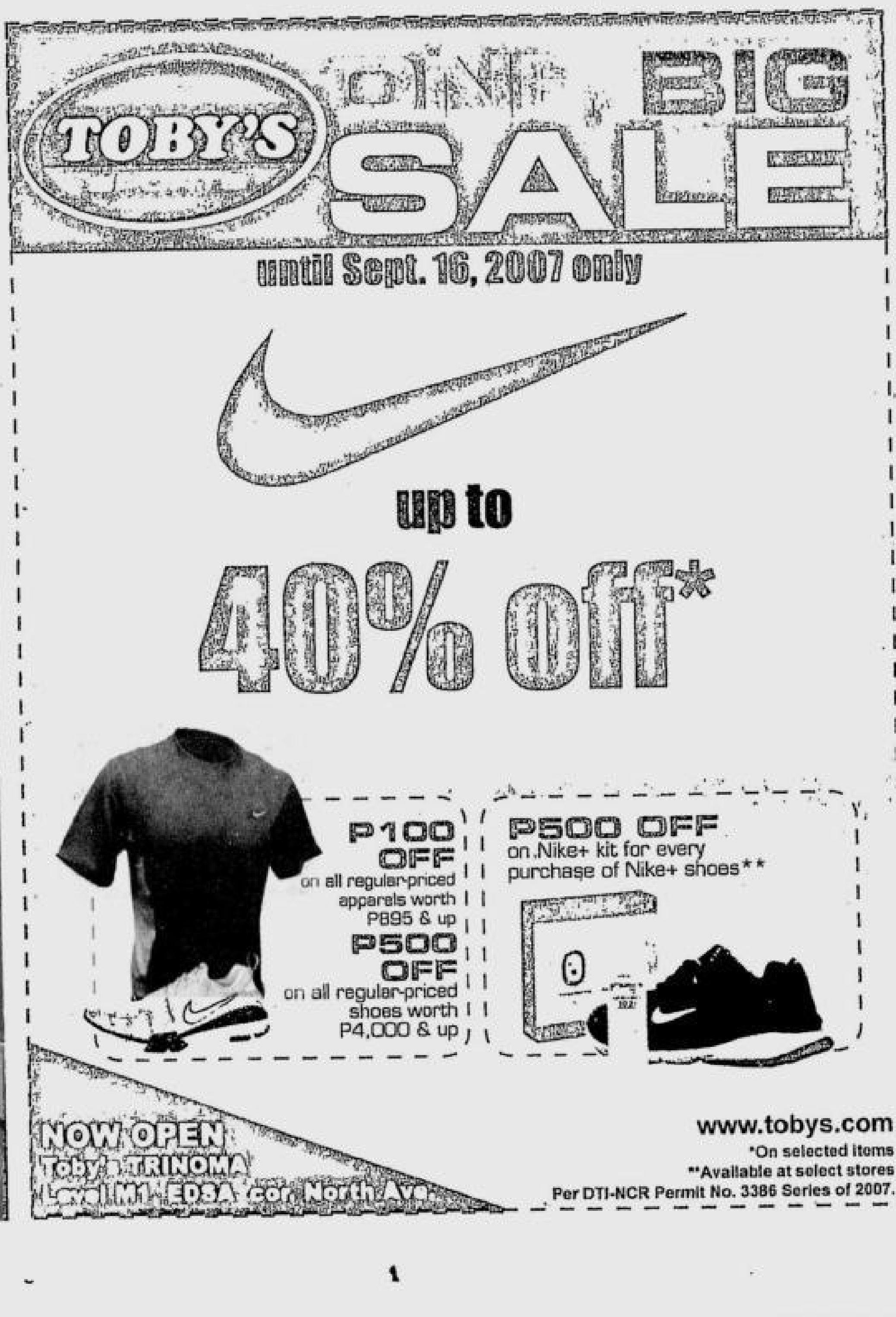

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Peso weakens further to 46.43 to $1

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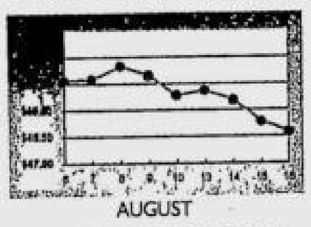

AUGUST

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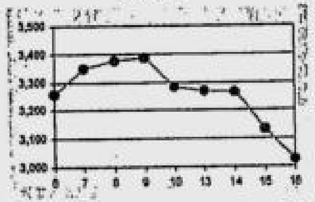
STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX

AUGUST



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Stocks tumble

SHARE PRICES FELL AND THE PESO HIT its weakest level in seven weeks yesterday as investors moved out of riskier assets amid jitters about the subprime lending crisis in the United States, dealers said.

The key composite index at the Philippine Stock Exchange was down 107.59 points or 3.4 percent at 3,022.75 points less than an hour after trading opened, having closed 4.1 percent down on Wednesday.

"The peso-dollar exchange rate will continue to be influenced by external fac-

STOCKS/B4

BSP reported ₱31.7-B net loss in first six months

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PESO WEAKENED FURTHER AGAINST THE DOLLAR yesterday as snowballing jitters relating to the problematic US housing market prompted global investors to scramble out of emerging markets.

Intervention from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas tempered the peso's freefall, currency traders said, but the local currency still shed another 20 centavos yesterday to close at 46.43 from Wednesday's finish of 46.23.

The peso hit an intra-day low of 46.70 alongside the weak regional markets but managed to close nearer the day's high of 46.41 as the BSP sold dollars to curb the currency's sharp fall, traders said.

"The country's fundamentals remain sound but the outlook on the peso is still uncertain given the shift in investor appetite away from emerging market assets," a local trader said.

John Calverley, an economist from the London-based economics unit of American Express Bank, said in a commentary yesterday that the markets would likely calm down over time and the nervousness of recent days would recede.

"Investors will likely to take a more cautious approach to risk but this is something to be welcomed as credit markets were looking increasingly like a bubble over the last two years," he said.

The economist said the very lax lending standards in 2005-2006, combined with falling housing prices in some areas, were starting to bring many more defaults than expected. But even on pessimistic assumptions about house prices, the total losses from the US subprime mortgage market would likely not be more than $200 billion, Calverley estimated.

"Such losses, spread around the world's investors, would hit banks' profits and investors' gains but are not dangerously large. The problem is that many of these subprime mortgages have been packaged up into other securities such as collateralized debt obligations (CDOs) which are now impossible to value," he said.

CDOs are a type of security backed by assets and a structured credit product which serve an important funding vehicle for portfolio investments in credit-risky assets like the subprime mortgage market in the US.

Spooked by news about more western banks hit by their soured exposure to the US subprime market, investors have rushed to move

PESO/B4

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BOP surplus doubled to $4.54B in 1st 7 months

THE COUNTRY YIELDED A BALANCE of payments surplus of $4.54 billion in the first seven months of the year, more than double the $2.17 billion in the same period last year, despite outflows arising from prepayment of the public sector's foreign obligations .

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said that for July alone, the surplus amounted to $1.34 billion—the biggest monthly surplus seen since January 2006. In the same month last year, the surplus was only $129 million.

The BOP measures the foreign exchange transactions between the domestic economy and the rest of the world. Any transaction that gives rise to a foreign currency payment by a Philippine resident, such as importation or debt servicing, is a deficit item in the BOP. Any deal that results in receipt of foreign exchange, such as borrowings, exportation or inward remittances, is a surplus item.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said the huge BOP surplus for January to July was due to strong overseas Filipino remittances, significant increase in foreign portfolio investment inflows and improvement in the balance of trade due to higher exports.

"The outlook on BOP remains to be positive," he said.

It was earlier reported that the country's payment account with the rest of the world had surged further to $5 billion from January to Aug. 3 as strong

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Canadian firm fast-tracks Surigao nickel project

Mining company cites 'positive results' of drilling program

By Ronnel W. Domingo

CANADIAN MINERAL EXPLORATION firm Mindoro Resources Ltd. said it plans to fast-track its Agata nickel project in Surigao del Norte following positive results of an ongoing drilling program.

The Alberta-based firm aims to start production in the first half of 2008, with ore output ranging from 500,000 wet metric tons to 700,000 WMT a year in the next three to five years.

Mindoro Resources said actual output may then be increased to a million WMT or more yearly depending on market demand.

Recently, the company was able to drill 13 new holes in the Agata property, which yielded samples with average nickel content of as much as 1.25 percent.

"Mineralization grades and thicknesses meet (our) expectations, and are in line with requirements for direct shipping grade material for ferro-nickel feedstock," the company said in a statement.

"Notwithstanding the recent softening of nickel price, demand remains for ferro-nickel feedstock," it added.

Nickel is in great demand, particularly in China, because it is used in the manufacturing in stainless steel.

Mindoro Resources has defined a mineralized area in Agata, where it expects to produce over a period of three to five years.

The output is intended for shipment to markets in China, India and South Korea were ferro-nickel ores are in very high demand.

"Mindoro management considers the results to date form a sound basis for fast-tracking the project," the company said.

"The Environmental Compliance Certificate is well advanced and the recently hired mine manager is advancing mine design planning," it added.

Mindoro Resources said further that the very high demand for ferro-nickel feedstock for nickel pig iron production in the Asia-Pacific region, and high nickel prices, presented an excellent opportunity to get the Agata project into production as soon as possible.

It is also expected to generate early cash flow since direct shipping-grade nickel laterite deposits have a low-capital cost and offer a rapid route to production and cashflow.

The Agata project is adjacent to a property that is already producing and delivering shipments to buyers in China.

Trading on climate change

Corporate Securities Info

Raul J. Palabrica

THERE IS NO LIMIT TO THE IMAGINATION of stockbrokers on the products that can be traded in the stock market.

For now, the activities in the local bourse are concentrated on the stocks of select domestic companies. The capital market has expanded a bit with the operation of PDEx (or Philippine Dealing and Exchange Corp.), which deals in bonds and other fixed income instruments.

In the more sophisticated financial markets abroad, the trading menu consists of, among others, stock options, warrants, forwards, commodities futures, asset based securities and commercial debt obligations.

The rule of the thumb in the trading world is, anything that has actual or potential monetary value that is capable of measurement and whose ownership can be transferred from one person to another is fit to be legally traded in an exchange.

And that includes the forces of nature over which mankind has no control of but, to a limited extent, can influence their movement.

The changes in the world's climate brought about by widespread abuse of the environment have given rise to a unique trading product called "carbon emissions credits."

Greenhouse effect

In 1997, a treaty called Kyoto Protocol was negotiated and entered as part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The objective of the agreement is the "stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system."

Simply stated, the treaty aims to reduce the emission of dangerous gases, such as, carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide, by industrialized countries by certain percentages over a five-year period starting 2008.

The uncontrolled discharge of greenhouse gas by cars, factories and other structures has led to global warming and, consequently, the unusual melting of icebergs, abnormal drying of water systems and abrupt changes in seasonal climates.

One of the measures adopted in the treaty to reduce these harmful discharges is the creation of carbon emission (CO) credits.

The concept starts with a listing by the treaty of the amount of greenhouse gases a country can produce. Using this allotment as benchmark, the country then sets quotas on the permissible gas emissions of the businesses that operate within its territory.

Carbon credits

Failure to observe the restriction could give rise to an order to install the necessary equipment to reduce the pollution under pain of severe financial sanctions.

Companies that are able to operate without exceeding their emission limits will be awarded CO credits. A credit is equal to one ton of greenhouse gas.

The credits are like ordinary commodities. They can be sold to companies that find difficulty in complying with the emission restrictions.

If a "dirty" company thinks it is less expensive to buy CO credits than install anti-pollution equipment, it can do so and, by that act, it shall be considered to have complied with the emission requirements.

The source of CO credits is not limited to the country where the affected business operates. It can be purchased from any of the countries that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol.

Thus, the CO credits of a Filipino food manufacturer can be sold to a Tokyo-based steel company that spews tons of black smoke every day.

The rationale behind CO credits is simple. The money paid by the polluter can be used by the "cleaner" company to acquire equipment that can further reduce its production of air pollutants or enable it to engage in ecological activities, such as, reforestation and cleaning of clogged waterways.

Trading

The scheme may be likened to a wealthy, but sinful, person paying a poor, but pious, person, to pray for him every night so that God will continue to bless him with good health and forgive his trespasses.

Shortly after the Kyoto Protocol became effective in 2005, with the United States and Australia refusing to join the 169 countries that ratified it, CO credits drew the interest of stockbrokers and funds traders.

Like stocks and other trade products, CO credits are financial instruments with transparent prices that have a ready market in industrialized countries whose businesses are reluctant to scale down their growth for the sake of a cleaner environment.

Trading on CO credits must be brisk and lucrative. Broker firms have been organized in major European capital markets that cater exclusively to this product.

The World Bank has organized a consortium of six governments and major utility and energy companies that purchases CO credits on their behalf.

According to reports, the trading requirements for CO credits have soared tremendously that four exchanges are currently in operation to meet the demand.

These are the Chicago Climate Exchange in the US, European Climate Exchange in the United Kingdom, Nord Pool in Norway and PowerNext in France. *(For feedback, please write to rpalabrica@inquirer.com.ph.)*

DA takes a closer look at 'malunggay'

By Amy R. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULture has expressed keen interest in studying how the *malunggay* can reduce malnutrition while giving farmers an additional source of income.

According to Alicia Ilaga, director of the DA Biotechnology Program Office, malunggay has been found by biochemists and molecular anthropologists to be rich in vitamin C and A, iron and high density lipoprotein (HDL) or good cholesterol.

Ilaga said a study of malunggay could spark interest in the vegetable, which will lead to the supply of the malunggay to food processors, pharmaceutical industries and even foreign cosmetics companies.

She said this could help generate jobs for millions of Filipino farmers, from the planting to the processing and distribution of malunggay for commercial production.

More importantly, Ilaga said that malunggay can help fight malnutrition.

Ilaga explained that the proposed study can help craft health policies on the use of malunggay to fortify food, since it is rich in iron.

Under the law, rice, salt, flour and other commodities are required to be fortified with iron after the government found out that many Filipinos are critically deficient in iron.

Ilaga said that manufacturers of instant noodles are now using substances found in malunggay to fortify their products.

The Nutrition Center of the Philippines has already proposed a study on the efficacy of malunggay leaf powder and malunggay oil to help reduce the traditionally high micronutrient deficiency among Filipinos.

Ilaga said NCP is likewise setting its sights on fortifying different types of food using the vitamin A, iron and the good cholesterol found in malunggay.

According to Ilaga, the DA plans to tap legislators for financial support to get the project off the ground.

Meanwhile, Secura Philippines, Inc. a local biotech firm, has offered a contract to grow malunggay and donate materials such as malunggay leaf powder for the government to use in its proposed study.

Ilaga said the DA was encouraging experts from government agencies and the private sector to collaborate in pushing for a wider cultivation and processing of malunggay.

These include the Department of Health, National Nutrition Council, the Bureau of Plant Industry, National Anti Poverty Commission and Food and Nutrition Research Institute.

CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR OTOP Vice President Noli de Castro (left) and Trade and Industry Secretary Peter B. Favila (right) discuss with House Committee on Trade and Industry chair Representative Junie Cua, ways to support the department's One Town, One Product (Otop) program during the recent opening of the Otop Luzon Fair 2007. The DTI partners with various government and nongovernment institutions to sustain the success of the Otop project. Otop Philippines is a priority program of President Macapagal-Arroyo to promote entrepreneurship and create jobs.

PNOC to put up jatropha farms

By Abigail L. Ho

THE PNOC ALTERNATIVE FUELS CORP. has signed an agreement with the provincial government of Quezon to establish jatropha plantations in the province.

According to the memorandum of agreement, the Quezon provincial government will identify and consolidate an initial 50,000 hectares of land for the project.

It will also ensure the availability of farmers who will participate in the project, from the planting to harvesting stage.

A Provincial Jatropha Committee will be established for this purpose.

For its part, PNOC-AFC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Philippine National Oil Co., will develop the land to be used for jatropha cultivation in the province, as well as provide the required technical knowledge support and training to the project participants.

The government firm will likewise purchase all seeds produced from the jatropha plantations at an agreed price, which will be the subject of a separate agreement between PNOC-AFC and the Quezon provincial government.

"By entering into (an agreement), the PNOC-AFC and the Quezon local government unit seeks to establish a basic framework for collaboration, cooperation and coordination for the establishment of an integrated jatropha plantation," PNOC-AFC president and chief executive Peter Anthony Abaya said.

The Quezon provincial government has always been interested in promoting jatropha cultivation as a means of providing additional income to its farmers.

Out of Quezon's 870,600 hectares of available land, 252,200 hectares are idle and can be used to grow jatropha.

PNOC-AFC is focusing on establishing jatropha seed and seedling nurseries this year before embarking on the establishment of actual plantations starting 2008.

"The planting materials we now have nationwide are still insufficient. We have to have enough nurseries to supply what we'll need for the jatropha plantations," Abaya said.

"We can't just jump into plantations without the sufficient planting materials. This is why PNOC-AFC is setting up nurseries all over the country, to propagate these planting materials," he added.

The jatropha plant's seeds have an oil content of 37 percent, which can be combusted as a fuel.

This oil has already passed tests performed on diesel engines.

Local biodiesel producers are currently using coconut as feedstock for their products.

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Power users may have to pay ₱2.60/kWh more

PSALM demands collection of P9B from buyers

By Abigail L. Ho

LUZON POWER USERS SHOULD brace themselves for an additional charge of P2.60 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) if Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. succeeds in collecting about P9 billion more from buyers of power from the wholesale electricity spot market for the Aug. 26-Oct. 25, 2006 trading.

"If PSALM succeeds in collecting this amount, distribution utilities, including the Manila Electric Co., which got power through the WESM during the period, will pay a an additional P6.23 per kWh," WESM operator Philippine Electricity Market Corp. said in a statement.

"As these are pass-through costs, we estimate that this will result in the need to collect an additional P2.60 per kWh from each and every electricity customer in Luzon, depending on your local distribution utility and subject to adjustment for line losses. This is over and above the amounts already paid by electricity consumers for these billing months," it added.

For Meralco consumers alone, the additional charge would likely amount to about P2.15 per kWh, considering that the distribution utility sold some 25 billion kWh of power last year, or around 2.1 billion kWh a month.

Meralco utility economics head Ivanna dela Pena earlier said the actual amount that the power distributor would have to pass on to its customers would depend on how the Energy Regulatory Commission would react to PSALM's demand.

"It will depend on the ERC's action and on the recovery period," she said.

In an interview yesterday, PEMC president Lasse Holopainen said no collections would be made until the ERC issues an order on this.

"We'll tell PSALM to go to the ERC. We maintain that our investigation is separate from the ERC's preliminary investigation. The ERC did not overturn our investigation, so we're not going to make any collections," he said.

PEMC's market surveillance committee found PSALM's trading teams guilty of anticompetitive behavior in the market. The ERC, however, said there was no prima facie evidence indicating that PSALM engaged in price manipulation.

In a letter to Holopainen, PSALM president Jose Ibazeta said that since the ERC found the PSALM trading teams innocent of price manipulation at the WESM, the government agency was entitled to full payments for power sold in the market from Aug. 26-Oct. 25.

The total amount PSALM is demanding represents the peso difference between the actual payments for energy traded in the third and fourth billing months (nearly P6.7 billion) and the amount actually due to PSALM based on the market clearing prices (P13.8 billion), plus the corresponding value-added tax (almost P1.2 billion) and interest based on Napocor's non-prime lending rate (P606.4 million).

High-value crops seen hitting targets

By Amy R. Remo

DESPITE THE PROLONGED DRY spell, the high-value commercial crops sector is expecting to surpass growth targets this year, said the Department of Agriculture.

Rodel Maghirang, national program coordinator of the Gintuang Masaganang Ani-HVCC Program, said high value crops such as bananas, mangoes, and vegetables could still post growths even in a worst case scenario of the dry spell lasting until December.

Pineapples, rubber and coffee would maintain their growth targets for the year as well, he added.

For bananas, the GMA-HVCC program targets a growth of 7.99 percent to 7.345 million metric tons from 6.801 million metric tons last year.

Under a worst-case scenario, this estimated growth would contract to 2.66 percent or 6.982 million metric tons without any interventions.

If measures are put in place, the banana sector may post a growth of 8.42 percent to 7.374 million metric tons.

Maghirang said intervention measures for bananas alone would require P150 million.

The amount would be used for the integration of the cardava supply of bananas for Metro Manila; the construction and repair of additional farm-to-market roads and irrigation facilities; new training for growers; organic fertilization in small farms; and setting up of packing houses to reduce post-harvest losses.

In the meantime, mango production is projected to grow 7.10 percent this year to 984,135 metric tons from last year's 918,877 metric tons.

With proper interventions, its expansion rate could shoot up to as much as 12.49 percent to 1.033 million metric tons, Maghirang said.

These interventions would require P19.8 million in additional funds to boost off-season production in the Ilocos, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon and Western Visayas.

Raising the water alarm

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

COMMENTARY

"WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE, BUT NOT a drop to drink!" This is the lament of a person stranded in an ocean with no land in sight, and facing the grim prospect of death. Today, this is the lament of many people in far flung barrios who, while having access to water, still do not have the prospect of drinking safe water. They, also, face sickness and possible death.

But water is not just for drinking; it is also the lifeblood of agriculture. Without water, we will be without food. Water is needed for many other uses, such as industrial, municipal, and environmental protection purposes. Today, we are on the brink of a water crisis which, if not addressed immediately, may threaten the very survival of our nation.

Water crisis

According to a United Nations study, "By 2025, if current trends persist, as much as two-thirds of the world's population will be living with a serious scarcity of water."

Below is a table that shows the decreasing availability of water derived from Wilfredo P. David's book, "Water Resources and Irrigation Policy Issues in Asia."

WATER PER CAPITA

YEAR	AREA	CUBIC METER / PERSON
1950	world	17,000
1970	world	12,900
1997	world	7,000
2025	world	4,700
Today	Malaysia	21,000
Today	Indonesia	12,000
Today	Philippines	3,000

The Philippines is already in a precarious situation. Its water per capita is 1/7th of Malaysia's, and below the forecasted dangerous world per capita level for 2025.

When lights went out in the mid-1990s, our daily routine were severely disrupted. We face today an impending water crisis that will be far more severe than that energy crisis, unless we have a clear comprehensive water policy. Today, this is sorely lacking. But if newly appointed Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Lito Atienza fulfills the commitment former Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Angelo Reyes made to the Alyansa Agrikultura during World Water Week last March 20, we will hold a National Water Summit before the year ends, where this policy will be finalized and announced.

Agriculture's role

Agriculture accounts for 85 percent of the total water in Asia, 72 percent worldwide and 87 percent in developing countries. Irrigation use comprises the bulk of this agricultural water. However, David states: "The average irrigation water use efficiency is less than 40 percent. In predominantly rice-based cropping systems, water efficiency is much less."

Furthermore, the demand for water for industrial, municipal, and environmental protection purposes will increase at a rate twice that of the population growth. Therefore, the proportion of water available for agriculture will decline. David concludes: "The opportunities for expanding the irrigation base are limited. If food security is to be maintained, ways of water productivity must be found."

It was in this spirit that we proposed to the Department of Agriculture last week the promotion of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) technology, which has the potential of quadrupling water productivity. As a Cornell University-SRI study state: "Since yields can double or more with only half as much water, the productivity is greatly increased."

The proposal was for the SRI promotion budget to get much more than its current P1 million allocation. This is miniscule compared to the P500 million given to the Rice Seed Program, which does not address the issue of water productivity.

When we discussed this issue to the DA Rice Program manager Francisco Malabanan earlier this week, he suggested that further SRI promotion could be done with each agriculture regional director. But what constituted a strong policy direction was the commendable decisiveness of Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap in giving a directive to top agriculture officials to look into SRI and water productivity immediately.

Political will

It is this kind of political will shown by Yap that should now be demonstrated by the many other government agencies concerned with water. Foremost is the DENR, which is primarily responsible for water resources. If Secretary Reyes' commitment is upheld, preparations should now be made for the National Water Summit.

For this summit, a comprehensive water resource policy and program framework is needed. Among the issues to be addressed are the impact of global warming and climate change on water supply; low water productivity in agriculture; criteria for distributing scarce water (such as during this dry spell) among agricultural, industrial, and consumer users; decentralized and privatized water service and market mechanisms; access to water for the rural and urban poor; and international collaboration for managing water shared resources.

In the last national water conference held in 2004, the agriculture sector, unlike the industrial and consumer sectors, had no stated position. Since it is agriculture that is the largest user of water, it is imperative that the many players in this sector be informed now if the National Multi-sectoral Water Summit will be held this year. This was the commitment made by former Secretary Reyes to the Alyansa Agrikultura, composed of 42 federations and organizations representing all major agricultural and fisheries sub-sectors. If the summit does not push through, it is like saying: "Government, government everywhere, but not a comprehensive policy to guide us on our water crisis brink."

(The author is the chair of Agriwatch, former Cabinet secretary for Presidential Flagship Programs and Projects,. and former undersecretary for agriculture, and trade and industry. For inquiries and suggestions, email agriwatchphil@yahoo.com or telefax (02) 8522112).

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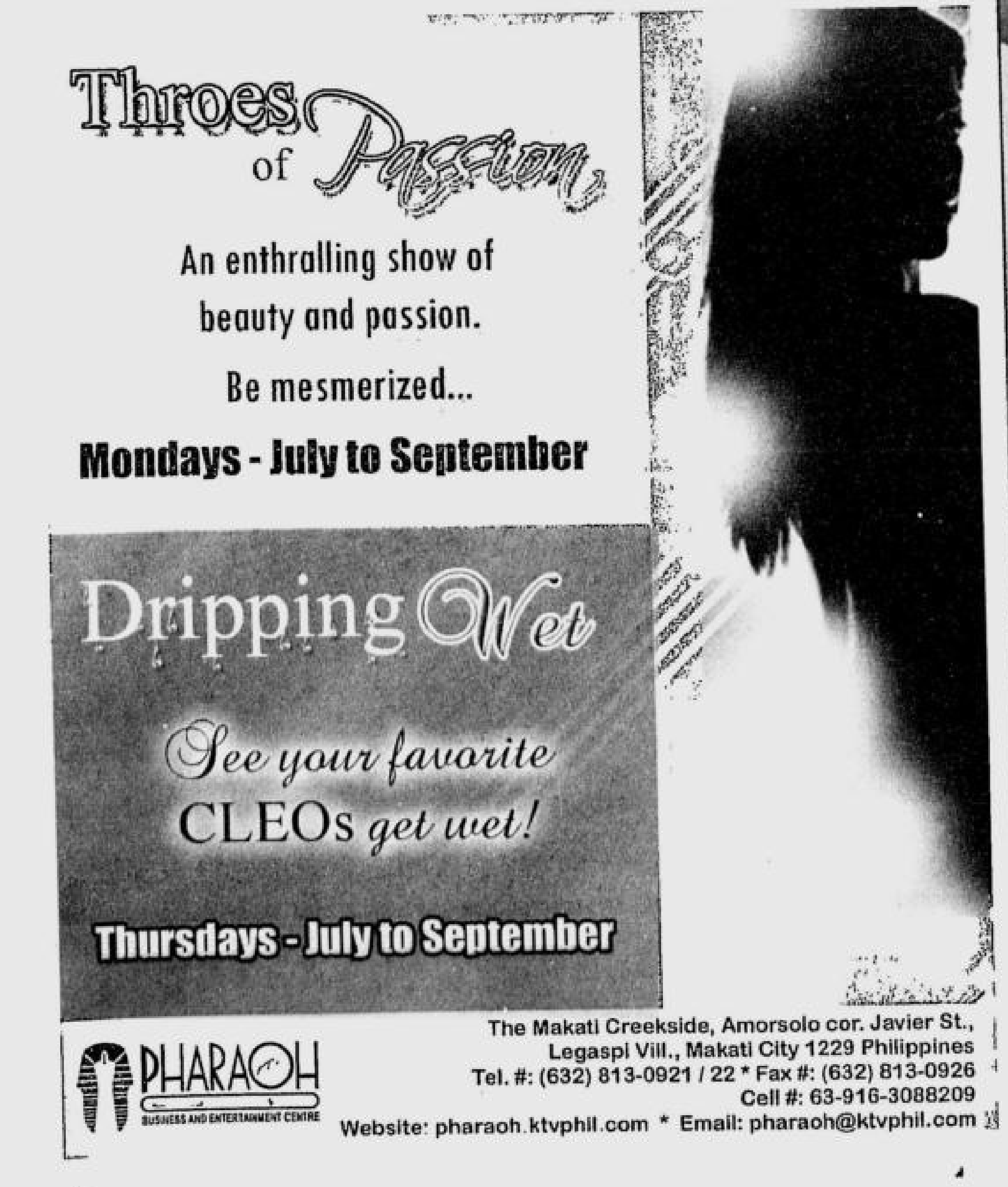
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SME owners more confident about sales in '07, study says

AXA premium income jumped 206% in 1st half

By Michelle V. Remo

PHILIPPINE AXA LIFE INSURANCE CORP. yesterday said its premium income grew by 206 percent to P10.1 billion in the first half.

This, it said, gave the company a better chance at becoming the No. 1 life insurer in the country after being the second lead last year.

"We are not to defend the No. 2 position. We will go for the No. 1 post (which has been Philam Life's for the past years)," Andrew Alcid, president and chief operating officer of AXA Philippines, said in a briefing yesterday.

Alcid, who joined AXA in May last year, said the company's first-half performance could be attributed to the higher demand for bancassurance products, particularly its investment-linked insurance.

He said net income for the first six months reached P300 million, exceeding the P534 million posted for the entire 2006.

"The market now demands for high-yielding products, and we are giving good propositions to our customers," said Indren Naidoo, executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Naidoo said AXA's fund management services, including its equities, bond and balanced (combination of equities and bonds) funds, have delivered returns for their customers that are about 80 percent higher than industry average.

Grant Thornton poll reports 70% of local firms to hire more

By Ronnel W. Domingo

OWNERS OF SMALL- AND medium-sized firms in the Philippines are more confident about the growth of sales, profitability and employment this year, according to the latest Grant Thornton study.

Dubbed International Business Report 2007, the survey looked at the attitudes, plans and trends among 7,200 respondents in 32 countries and territories in six continents.

The IBR 2007 showed that more than seven of 10 Philippine respondents were optimistic about revenue prospects compared to less than six in IBR 2006.

Also, more domestic SMEs were optimistic about profitability in 2007, with 65 percent saying so compared to the previous 52 percent.

Grant Thornton said the Philippines was among the top five countries where business owners were most optimistic.

The poll also showed that 70 percent of local business owners expect to hire more people by the end of this year, more than double the 32 percent that said so in the 2006 report.

This put the country next only to India in terms of employment prospects, where 74 percent said they would expand their workforce.

Some three quarters of local respondents said they did take in additional workers last year, almost triple the 28 percent who did so in 2005.

This meant that SMEs in the Philippines hired the most in 2006, compared to other countries covered by the survey.

However, about two of five Filipino executives cited the lack of available skilled workers as the biggest constraint to their expansion moves.

Other concerns cited include the cost of financing, with 32 percent saying so; red tape and government regulations (26 percent); shortage of working capital (22 percent); shortage of long-term financing (18 percent); and reduced demand (17 percent).

Further, IBR 2007 found that only 27 percent of domestic SMEs respondents were involved in exports, sliding from 36 percent of respondents in the previous poll.

On the other hand, seven of 10 local business owners see opportunities in globalization while only 15 percent see it as a threat to their operations.

Digitel trims 6-mo net loss to ₱297M

By Riza T. Olchondra

DIGITAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS Philippines Inc. (Digitel) posted a 6-month revenue of P3.98 billion, inching up from P3.97 billion in the same period last year. It also trimmed its losses to only P297.5 million from P1.4 billion a year ago.

In a financial report, Digitel said its net loss was minimized by "net foreign exchange gains recognized in (the first half of) 2007 of P1.7 billion, against P252.6 million in the same period in 2006."

Wireline voice call services posted revenue of P2.07 billion for the six months ending June 30, 12.5 percent lower than last year's revenue of P2.37 billion. Digitel attributed the decline to decreasing rates, the continued appreciation of the peso against the dollar—which pulls down the foreign currency adjustment portion of the monthly recurring charges—and the faster growth of wireless services.

"Providing cushion to the reduced international and domestic traffic and peso appreciation is the growth of ADSL and wireless telephone with broadband services, known as MANGo. Compared to last year, these services doubled their combined contribution to the total revenue and registered an increase of 68.8 percent over last year's revenues," the company said.

Peso weakens ...

From page B1

out their money to "safer haven" such as US treasuries.

Most of the funds being pulled out are the so-called "hot money" that flowed mainly into local stocks.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. yesterday reported that net inflows of "hot money" to the country hit $1.1 billion in July alone due mainly to large initial and follow-on offer of shares.

This brought the net foreign portfolio inflows in the first seven months to $3.6 billion or over four times the $894.9-million net windfall in the same period last year.

The huge inflow of "hot money" combined with the steady stream of remittances from overseas Filipino workers to strengthen the peso's value.

A negative effect of such strengthening was on the books of the BSP. Taking a big hit from the peso's sharp appreciation against the US dollar, the BSP incurred a net loss of P31.7 billion in the first semester, a reversal of the P11-billion net profit a year ago.

Based on the BSP's latest unaudited income statement, the central monetary authority incurred a record loss of P41.83 billion from currency fluctuations from January to June this year as compared to the P14.36-billion gain in the same period last year. This was the single biggest item that weighed on the BSP's finances in the first semester.

The BSP's net loss further widened from P19.75 billion incurred from January to May, indicating nearly P12 billion in fresh losses for the month of June alone.

Due to strong foreign inflows, the BSP has been forced to buy dollars from the foreign exchange market even as the greenback's value has continued to slide against the local currency.

But netting out the impact of the peso's sharp appreciation against the dollar, the BSP would have posted a net profit of P10.1 billion during the first semester.

For the first six months of the year, the BSP earned P38.55 billion and spent P28.45 billion, excluding the financial hemorrhage from its foreign exchange operations.

The mounting foreign exchange losses have prompted the BSP to remind the national government of its P40 billion in unpaid capital that should have been infused more than 10 years ago. Recently asked how the BSP would address its rising foreign exchange losses, BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. stressed that the agency's mandate was to provide monetary stability rather than rake in profits.

BOP surplus ...

From page B1

foreign exchange flows continued to pour into the country.

The 7-month BOP surplus has exceeded the BSP's forecast of $2.4-$2.9 billion for the whole year, prompting a review of these projections.

Aside from the more than $1 billion in monthly remittances from OFWs, fresh foreign direct investments were infused into the electronics sector (including semiconductor manufacturing), mining and shipbuilding in the first seven months of the year.

In the meantime, local borrowers took advantage of the strong foreign inflows to pay some of their foreign debts ahead of maturity.

From January to May this year, Tetangco said foreign debts that were preterminated amounted to $1.6 billion, of which about $1 billion was accounted for by the public sector. The BSP, itself, settled $805 million in external debts before maturity in the first seven months of the year. *Doris C. Dumlao*

Stocks tumble ...

From page B1

tors with subprime mortgage concerns the driving factor for the greenback's renewed vigor versus emerging market currencies," a trader at a local commercial bank said.

Ron Rodrigo of Unicapital Securities said the sharp retreat on Wall Street despite more funds injected into the banking system by the US Federal Reserve reflected deeper investor anxiety.

Locally, he said investors were no longer focusing on the economy and corporate earnings.

"The fact that US equities dropped despite the Fed's move created a dilemma for local investors. It is obvious that investors are looking for clearer signals that the subprime and credit crisis can really be contained and prevented from spilling into other economic sectors," said Rodrigo. *AFP*

CURRENCIES

August 16, 2007 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.743329	1.000000	46.1820
Japan	Yen	0.006361	0.008558	0.3952
United Kingdom	Pound	1.480859	1.992200	92.0038
Hongkong	Dollar	0.095056	0.127879	5.9057
Switzerland	Franc	0.610036	0.820681	37.9007
Canada	Dollar	0.689736	0.927902	42.8524
Singapore	Dollar	0.484600	0.651933	30.1076
Australia	Dollar	0.613966	0.825968	38.1449
Bahrain	Dinar*	1.971799	2.652661	122.5052
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.198194	0.266631	12.3136
Brunei	Dollar	0.483026	0.649815	30.0098
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000079	0.000106	0.0049
Thailand	Baht	0.022871	0.030769	1.4210
UAE	Dirham	0.202415	0.272309	12.5758
EU	Euro	1.000000	1.345300	62.1286
Korea	Won	0.000798	0.001073	0.0496
China	Yuan**	0.097989	0.131825	6.0879
Argentina	Peso	0.235903	0.317360	14.6563
Brazil	Real	0.373776	0.502841	23.2222
Denmark	Kroner	0.134420	0.180835	8.3513
India	Rupee	0.018331	0.024661	1.1389
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.213294	0.286944	13.2516
Mexico	New Peso	0.066445	0.089389	4.1282
New Zealand	Dollar	0.532280	0.716076	33.0698
South Africa	Rand	0.101684	0.136795	6.3175
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.022520	0.030296	1.3991

Source: Reuters' forex closing prices as of NY time—Aug. 15, 2007
* Various banks in Bahrain as quoted in Reuters' Screen.
** Asian time closing rate as of Aug. 15, 2007

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of August 16, 2007)

52-WEEK HIGH	52-WEEK LOW	STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
		BANKS					
73	32.5	Banco de Oro-EPCI Inc	55	55	52	54	1,511,900
73.5	51.5	Bank of the Philippine Islands	58	58	54.5	54.5	2,184,400
935	630	China Banking Corp.	810	820	790	795	6,640
23.25	18.5	Citystate Savings Bank	22.25	23.25	22.25	23.25	5,000
0.63	0.37	Export and Industry Bank, Inc	0.39	0.39	0.38	0.38	7,780,000
75.5	36.5	Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co.	52	52	49	49.5	3,458,400
65.5	32.5	Philippine National Bank	43	43	39	41.5	1,553,800
68	41	Philippine Savings Bank	60.5	60.5	59	59	6,700
39.57	14.35	Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.	24.5	24.75	24.25	24.25	1,428,800
90	47	Security Bank Corp.	70	70	67	69	85,900
66	41.54	Union Bank of the Philippines	51.5	51.5	50	50.5	367,300
		OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
5.6	1.76	ATR KimEng Financial Corp	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.8	101,000
1.98	0.6	Bankard Inc.	1.7	1.74	1.64	1.64	12,193,000
16.25	1.82	CitisecOnline.com Inc.	9.6	9.6	8.5	9	676,000
5	2.95	National Reinsurance Corp. of the Phils.	3.3	3.3	2.95	3.05	4,988,000
3.1	1	PCI Leasing and Finance Inc.	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	87,000
1,005.00	219	The Philippine Stock Exchange, Inc	730	730	700	700	3,900
2,250.00	1,920.00	Sun Life Financial Inc	2,060.00	2,080.00	2,060.00	2,080.00	1,430
1.94	1.3	iVantage Corp	1.38	1.38	1.3	1.32	798,000
		ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
6.2	3.8	Aboitiz Power Corp.	4.3	4.3	3.8	3.9	38,912,000
0.57	0.23	East Asia Power Resources Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	20,000
70	42	First Gen Corp.	57.5	58	57	57	769,900
92	41	First Phil. Holdings Corp.	70	70.5	68.5	69.5	1,097,900
15	8.7	Manila Water Co. Inc.	13.75	13.75	12.5	12.75	15,547,500
116	15.5	Manila Electric Co. "A"	87	87	77.5	77.5	245,000
118	24.5	Manila Electric Co. "B"	87	87	78.5	79	2,494,900
7	4.1	PNOC Energy Development Corp.	6	6.1	5.9	6	99,240,000
6.5	3.75	Petron Corp.	5.3	5.3	5	5.1	5,713,000
14.75	7.1	Phoenix Petroleum Philippines Inc.	7.8	7.8	7.1	7.1	771,000
1.9	0.92	Trans-Asia Oil and Energy Dev't Corp.	1.14	1.2	1.08	1.08	911,000
		FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
6.3	2.9	Alaska Milk Corp.	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.4	550,000
2.95	1.86	Alliance Tuna International Inc.	1.94	1.94	1.86	1.86	410,000
6.9	2.28	Central Azucarera De Tarlac	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	5,000
28.5	19.5	Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	23.5	24.5	22.5	24.5	65,100
61	31.5	Jollibee Foods Corp.	50	50	46	46.5	574,600
1.96	0.77	RFM Corp.	1.56	1.56	1.38	1.38	894,000
4.05	2.08	Roxas Holdings	2.14	2.14	2.08	2.08	215,000
80	61	San Miguel Corp. "A"	65	65	62	62	123,700
88	65	San Miguel Corp. "B"	68.5	68.5	65	65	154,600
0.66	0.2	Swift Foods Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.46	0.46	830,000
4.7	2	Tanduay Holdings Inc.	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	10,000
22	15.25	Universal Robina Corp.	16	16	15.75	15.75	2,891,200
0.55	0.2	Vitarich Corp.	0.3	0.31	0.3	0.31	90,000
		CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
6.1	1.57	EEI Corp.	3.05	3.05	2.9	2.9	1,595,000
21.5	6	Federal Chemicals Inc.	9.5	10	9.5	9.7	2,022,100
9.2	4.5	Holcim Philippines Inc.	4.95	5.7	4.95	5.2	12,400,000
7	1.28	Republic Cement Corp.	4	4	3.65	3.9	94,000
2	0.27	Southeast Asia Cement Holdings Inc	0.92	0.92	0.81	0.92	608,000
		CHEMICALS					
6.3	3.1	Chemrez Technologies Inc.	4.15	4.15	3.75	3.8	2,204,000
1.46	0.51	Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	50,000
		DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
0.75	0.0775	Picop Resources Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.31	16,690,000
		HOLDING FIRMS					
3.9	1.8	A. Soriano Corp.	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.1	2,235,000
0.17	0.025	AJO.net Holdings Inc.	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.07	47,100,000
1.28	0.21	APC Group Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.54	0.56	11,340,000
3.6	1.4	ATN Holdings Inc. "A"	2.75	2.75	2.4	2.75	6,900,000
3.3	1.48	ATN Holdings Inc. "B"	2.75	3	2.5	3	1,680,000
0.018	0.007	Abacus Cons. Res. and Hold'gs Inc. "A"	0.009	0.009	0.008	0.0085	254,000,000
0.019	0.0075	Abacus Cons. Res. and Hold'gs Inc. "B"	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	9,000,000
9.7	4.85	Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.	6.4	6.4	6	6	5,225,000
0.021	0.0075	Alcorn Gold Resources Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.011	304,000,000
7.3	3.5	Alliance Global Group Inc.	4.05	4.1	3.75	3.9	26,139,000
1.38	0.49	Alsons Consolidated Resources Inc.	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.74	100,000
2.9	0.89	Anglo-Philippine Holdings Corp.	1.82	1.82	1.68	1.68	2,855,000
8	0.8	Aries Prime Resources Inc.	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	15,000
590	341.67	Ayala Corp.	422.5	422.5	407.5	417.5	447,320
14.5	7.04	Bacnotan Consolidated Industries Inc.	12.25	12.5	11.75	12	213,600
5.8	1.06	Benpres Holdings Corp.	4.2	4.2	3.65	3.85	21,657,000
10.25	3.25	DMCI Holdings Inc.	8	8	7.4	7.5	1,825,000
6.9	0.97	Eton Properties Philippines Inc.	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.55	216,000
2.5	0.7	F and J Prince Holdings Corp. "A"	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.58	30,000
8	2.56	Filinvest Development Corp.	6	6	6	6	1,500,000
3.55	1.16	House of Investments Inc.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	56,000
14.5	5.6	JG Summit Holdings Inc.	9	9.6	9	9.6	47,000
2.6	1	Keppel Philippines Holdings Inc. "A"	2	2	2	2	10,000
2.65	1.42	Keppel Philippines Holdings Inc. "B"	2	2	2	2	10,000
11.5	0.33	Multitech Investments Corp.	4.3	4.3	3.75	3.75	1,974,000
8.2	2.7	PAL Holdings Inc.	5	5.1	5	5.1	455,000
0.75	0.17	Prime Orion Philippines Inc.	0.35	0.36	0.35	0.35	1,430,000
2.1	1.2	Republic Glass Holdings Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6	100,000
452.5	202.36	SM Investments Corp.	332.5	332.5	320	320	592,130
0.73	0.125	Sinophil Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.28	0.28	21,750,000
1.6	0.85	South China Resources Inc.	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	10,000
23	1	TKC Steel Corp.	14.25	14.5	14.25	14.5	20,100
0.75	0.1	Wellex Industries Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.29	0.29	2,110,000
		PROPERTY					
2.34	0.78	A Brown Co. Inc.	1.16	1.16	1.08	1.08	99,000
8.9	6	Anchor Land Holdings, Inc	6.5	6.5	6	6.4	39,000
19.25	10.83	Ayala Land Inc.	14.25	14.25	13.5	13.75	11,299,500
1.88	0.99	Belle Corp.	1.16	1.16	1.04	1.1	3,968,000
4.7	2.14	Cebu Holdings Inc.	3.75	4	3.6	4	1,013,000
0.83	0.24	Cyber Bay Corp.	0.37	0.37	0.36	0.36	1,660,000
0.99	0.45	Empire East Land Holdings Inc.	0.77	0.77	0.72	0.73	28,440,000
0.47	0.047	Ever Gotesco Resources and Hold'gs Inc.	0.215	0.215	0.18	0.19	24,920,000
1.48	0.4	Fil-Estate Land Inc.	1	1	0.96	0.96	16,508,000
2.44	1.07	Filinvest Land Inc.	1.44	1.44	1.36	1.4	41,514,000
3.3	2.16	Highlands Prime Inc.	2.55	2.55	2.55	2.55	138,000
2.9	0.84	Keppel Philippines Properties Inc.	1.62	1.62	1.4	1.4	270,000
1.12	0.24	MRC Allied Industries Inc.	0.58	0.58	0.5	0.5	4,400,000
4.4	1.51	Megaworld Corp.	3	3	2.7	2.85	70,265,000
6.4	1.5	Metro Pacific Investments Corp.	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.4	62,000
0.7	0.125	Phil. Estates Corp.	0.32	0.32	0.28	0.28	1,790,000
0.87	0.37	Philippine Realty and Holdings Corp.	0.42	0.42	0.37	0.37	9,950,000
9.2	1.1	Polar Property Holdings Corp.	3	3.8	3	3.8	14,000
23	11.75	Robinson Land Corp.	15.75	15.75	14.75	14.75	12,173,800
5.9	1.37	SM Development Corp.	3.55	3.55	3.45	3.5	2,758,000
13.5	6.08	SM Prime Holdings Inc	9.8	9.8	9.4	9.5	30,046,000
3.25	0.8	Shang Properties Inc.	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.7	700,000
1.34	0.52	Suntrust Home Developers Inc.	0.56	0.56	0.52	0.53	2,030,000
0.49	0.08	Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.24	4,560,000
7.5	3.65	Vista Land and Lifescapes Inc.	5	5	4.6	4.65	30,867,000
		MEDIA					
38.5	15.75	ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	30.5	31	29.5	29.5	160,800
11.75	8.7	GMA Network Inc.	9.5	9.5	9	9.2	929,000
		TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
2.12	1.12	Digital Telecommunications Phils. Inc.	1.18	1.18	1.12	1.18	5,981,000
1,445.00	970	Globe Telecom Inc.	1,285.00	1,285.00	1,205.00	1,210.00	123,750
2,820.00	1,890.00	Phil. Long Distance Telephone Co.	2,465.00	2,465.00	2,270.00	2,270.00	104,930
7.9	3.65	Pilipino Telephone Corp.	6.1	6.1	5.5	6	4,891,000
		INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
0.39	0.17	Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.185	0.185	3,020,000
12	2	Diversified Financial Network Inc.	9	9.8	9	9.8	9,000
11.5	2	IPVG Corp.	8.1	8.4	7.8	8.2	1,772,000
0.065	0.027	ISM Communications Corp.	0.03	0.03	0.027	0.027	68,800,000
29.5	6.5	Imperial Resources Inc. "A"	14	15	13.5	13.5	7,800
2.9	1.8	Ionics Inc.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	316,000
0.32	0.043	Island Information and Technology Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.17	0.175	119,470,000
2.08	1.1	Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.2	1.2	1.14	1.14	205,000
0.0725	0.027	PhilWeb.Com Inc.	0.047	0.047	0.043	0.044	142,300,000
5.8	1	Transpacific Broadband Group Int'l. Inc.	2.42	2.44	2.22	2.4	1,302,000
		TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
6.8	2.95	Asian Terminals Inc.	3.6	4.1	3.6	4.1	155,000
34.5	14.75	Int'l Container Terminal Services Inc.	28	28.5	27.5	28.5	1,735,400
2.16	0.88	Keppel Philippines Marine Inc.	1.7	1.7	1.64	1.64	75,000
2.04	0.99	Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	5,000
		HOTEL & LEISURE					
4.25	1.4	Leisure and Resorts World Corp.	2.5	2.75	2.4	2.7	369,000
0.98	0.28	Premiere Entertainment Productions Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.43	0.43	3,630,000
1.2	0.42	Waterfront Philippines Inc.	0.68	0.69	0.66	0.69	3,840,000
		EDUCATION					
3.7	2.65	iPeople Inc.	2.7	2.85	2.7	2.75	[illegible]
		DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
7.5	3	Easycall Comm. Phils. Inc.	4	4	4	4	20,000
6	1.9	Macroasia Corp.	4.25	4.3	4.05	4.25	30,000
17.25	9.9	Pacific Online Systems Corp.	10	10.25	9.9	10.25	218,700
30	9.9	Paxys Inc	14.25	14.75	13	13.25	353,400
		MINING					
0.018	0.0075	Abra Mining and Industrial Corp	0.0095	0.0095	0.0085	0.009	391,000,000
7.6	3.95	Apex Mining Co. Inc. "A"	4	4	3.95	3.95	236,000
7.7	4	Apex Mining Co. Inc. "B"	4	4.4	4	4.4	177,000
21.25	7.6	Atlas Cons. Mining and Dev't Corp.	12.5	12.5	10.75	11.5	5,803,200
14.25	8.7	Benguet Corp. "A"	10	10	9.6	9.6	59,100
5	1.8	Dizon Copper Silver Mines Inc.	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	136,000
3.1	0.33	GEOGRACE Resources Philippines Inc.	1.28	1.36	1.2	1.24	129,449,000
0.35	0.18	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. "A"	0.205	0.205	0.18	0.195	9,450,000
0.42	0.22	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. "B"	0.22	0.23	0.22	0.225	7,450,000
0.038	0.017	Manila Mining Corp. "A"	0.02	0.02	0.019	0.019	299,000,000
0.041	0.019	Manila Mining Corp. "B"	0.023	0.023	0.021	0.021	189,800,000
30	0.88	NiHAO Minerals Resources Int'l Inc.	9.7	9.7	9	9.2	1,466,000
0.021	0.0079	Omico Corp.	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.012	406,500,000
6.4	3.15	Philex Mining Corp.	5	5	4.75	4.8	14,977,000
43	14.75	Semirara Mining Corp.	28.5	28.5	26.5	26.5	1,002,100
1.36	0.39	United Paragon Mining Corp.	0.85	0.85	0.81	0.81	2,520,000
1.8	0.53	Vulcan Industrial and Mining Corp.	1.12	1.14	1.06	1.06	8,556,000
		OIL					
0.58	0.25	Basic Petroleum Corp.	0.38	0.38	0.35	0.35	1,340,000
0.025	0.0095	Oriental Pet. and Minerals Corp. "A"	0.017	0.017	0.015	0.016	558,500,000
0.027	0.01	Oriental Pet. and Minerals Corp. "B"	0.019	0.019	0.018	0.018	226,200,000
0.028	0.0089	The Philodrill Corp.	0.017	0.018	0.015	0.017	1,650,300,000

AVERAGES			VOLUME	VALUE
Financial	806.78 DOWN	35.11	37,237,170	554,049,170.00
Industrial	4,129.33 DOWN	273.35	208,198,500	1,536,799,750.00
Holding Firms	1,656.12 DOWN	72.61	725,022,050	688,333,490.00
Property	1,350.63 DOWN	76.69	299,484,300	1,101,916,450.00
Service	1,379.59 DOWN	107.22	360,039,780	554,700,875.00
Mining & Oil	4,776.80 DOWN	432.88	3,903,921,400	418,090,720.00
All Shares Index	1,901.86 DOWN	105.99		
PSEi	2,942.31 DOWN	188.03		
		GRAND TOTALS	5,533,903,200	4,853,890,455.00

COMPILED BY RHEA BLANCAS, INQUIRER RESEARCH

SOURCE: TECHNISTOCK, PSE

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

Philippine Sugar Center Bldg., North Ave., Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. No. (02) 454-0254 • Website www.nfa.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Supply and Delivery of Printers and Servers

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA)*, through its *2007 Corporate Operating Budget* intends to apply the sum of *P5,500,000.00* being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for *supply and delivery of Printers and Servers*, as follows:

Lot No.	Particulars	No. of Units	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
1	Dot Matrix Printers, 132 cols.	150	3,300,000.00
2	Dot Matrix Printers, 80 cols.	150	1,200,000.00
3	Servers	2	1,000,000.00
	TOTAL		5,500,000.00

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The *NFA* now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the *supply and delivery of Personal and Notebook Computers*. Delivery is required within 45 calendar days from receipt of notarized contract. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instruction to Bidders (ITB).

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the *NFA-BAC SECRETARIAT* and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from *8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.*

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of P7,500.00 in the form of *CASH*. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The following activities shall be conducted at the *NFA Board Room, 6th floor, Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Quezon City.*

a) Pre-Bid Conference - August 31, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.
b) Bid Submission and Opening - September 13, 2007
Submission of Bids – 1:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.
Opening of Bids - 2:00 p.m.

All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the following form and amount.

Form of Security	Required Amount in Percent of ABC
Cash, cashier's Check, Manager's Check, Bank draft or Irrevocable Letter of Credit	One percent (1%)
Bank Guarantee	One and a half percent (1.5%)
Surety Bond stamped "Callable on Demand" on the face of the Bond issued by GSIS	Two and a half percent (2.5%)
Any combination of the above	Proportionate to share

Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.

The *NFA* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Procuring Entity – *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*
Contact Person – *Jose D. Chua / Violeta S. Villarama*
Address – *Philsugin Bldg., North Ave., Diliman, Quezon City*
Telephone/Fax No. – *(632) 455-2758*
Mobile Phone – *(928) 4102732*
e-mail address – *vsvillarama@nfa.gov.ph*
Website – *www.nfa.gov.ph*

(Sgd.) **PEDRO S. HERNANDO, JR.**
Deputy Administrator and BAC Chair
for Administration and General Support Services

(PDI–August 17, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Supreme Court through the Committee on Bids invites prospective bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for:

Name of Project	Approved Budget	Source of Funding
LOT 1		
Printing Supplies (4th Quarter 2007) for the Supreme Court	P 3,770,585.00	General Appropriations Act – 2007
LOT 2		
Materials for the printing of Supreme Court Issuance on the Administrative Supervision of Lower Courts: 1. 265 reams – Bookpaper, 25" x 38", 59 lbs. 2. 25 kls. – Hot-melt Glue, Instant LOK 30P 3. 830 pcs. – Coated board, ICS, No. 189	P 406,262.50	General Appropriations Act – 2007

PERIOD OF DELIVERY:
Thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of Purchase Order (P.O.)

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

1. PRE-BID CONFERENCE

The pre-bid conference will be held on:

Date : August 24, 2007, Friday
Venue : Session Hall, 3rd Floor, Old Bldg., Taft Ave., Mla.
Time : 2:00 p.m.

2. SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND OPENING OF BIDS

The eligibility requirements of prospective bidders must be personally submitted by the duly authorized representative, and the bids will be opened, thereafter, in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives, to be held on:

Date : September 7, 2007, Friday
Venue : Session Hall, 3rd Floor, Old Bldg., Taft Ave., Mla.
Time : 2:00 p.m.

Prospective bidders must not be related to the head of the procuring entity or any member of the Committee on Bids or its Secretariat either by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree.

Interested bidders may secure eligibility requirements and bid documents which will be available starting July 18, 2007, from the Secretariat, Committee on Bids, Property Division, 3rd Floor, Annex Building, Supreme Court, after payment of a non-refundable fee of One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) for Lot 1 and Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) for Lot 2, prior to the conduct of pre-bid conference. For additional information, the bidders may contact the Secretary, Atty. Ennar R.C. Cabanilla at telefax no. 5251270 or Ms. Norma C. Josue at tel. no. 5266419.

The Committee on Bids reserves the right to: 1) reject any or all bids, 2) waive any defects or informalities therein, 3) or accept any bid/s or offer/s which it may consider to be most advantageous and beneficial to the government.

August 14, 2007.

(Sgd.) **JOSE P. PEREZ**
Chairperson

(PDI–August 17, 2007)

SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESIDENCY
of the
VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Minimum Personal Qualifications:

1. Preferably be at least thirty-five (35) years old but not more than sixty (60) years old on the deadline for the submission of applications for the position.
2. Must be a Filipino citizen to include any person who may have become a naturalized citizen of another country but has been able to acquire dual-citizenship.
3. Must be a holder of an earned Doctorate degree.
4. Must have a proven track record as top administrator in academic field such as President, Vice-President and Campus Director, whether public or private tertiary educational institution, for the period of three (3) years. These must be supported by documents (e.g. Certification or Special Order from the concerned party) stating the managerial, professorial and/or administrative experience and the period covered.
5. Must possess leadership in school administration and managerial skills within the purview of the needs, thrusts, goals and objectives of the University.
6. Must be of good moral character.
7. Must not have been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude or of any administrative charge.

Note: *Qualified applicants are requested to submit all the required clearances on or before the deadline. Failure to submit all clearances by then will mean forfeiture of the application.*

1. Formal Application Letter addressed to:

Hon. NONA S. RICAFORT PhD.
Chairperson, VSU Board of Regents
Visayas State University
Visca, Baybay, Leyte

2. Curriculum Vitae with authenticated / certified supporting documents.
3. Applicant's Proposed Vision, Mission, and thrusts for the College/University
4. Neuro-psychiatric Examination Result accomplished by a government physician as recommended by the Search Committee.
5. Medical Certificate of Physical Fitness issued by a government physician
6. Clearance Certificates (original) from the following:
   - a. Ombudsman or Sandiganbayan *(Note: Pending Case not a clearance)*
   - b. Civil Service Commission
   - c. National Bureau of Investigation
7. Accomplished CSC Form 212, under oath
8. Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of Year 2006

Important: Interested applicants must send the above mentioned documentary requirements in seven (7) sets/copies on or before **15 September 2007** to any of the following:

Chair of the Search Committee OR
Visayas State University
Visca, City of Baybay, Leyte

Attention: **DANIEL M. TUDTUD, JR.**
Board Secretary

Hon. Nona S. Ricafort
Commissioner
5th Floor, DAP Bldg.
Commission on Higher Education
San Miguel Ave., Ortigas, Pasig City

Attention: **IMELDA G. CALVO**
Executive Assistant

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region
DY Int'l Bldg., 1650 San Marcelino
cor. General Malvar St., Malate, Manila

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office application/s for Alien Employment Permit/s:

Name and address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National	Position
CHINA STATE (PHILS.) CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION Unit 3102 Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City	Xin Zhou	Civil Engineer
CHINA STATE (PHILS.) CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION Unit 3102 Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City	Yuxiang Zhang	Civil Engineer
CHINA STATE (PHILS.) CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION Unit 3102 Orient Squre Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City	Hongwei An	Civil Engineer
CHINA STATE (PHILS.) CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION Unit 3102 Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas Ctr., Pasig City	Zhixin Zhao	Civil Engineer
CHINA STATE (PHILS.) CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION Unit 3102 Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas Ave., Pasig City	Liusheng Du	Civil Engineer
CHINA STATE (PHILS.) CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION Unit 3102 Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas Ctr., Pasig City	Xiaoyun Liu	Civil Engineer
SMASH & SLAM MRKTG. CO. LTD. 2326 Juan Luna St., Binondo, Manila	Lisi Shi	Advertising Manager
AMAZING PLANET LTD. CO. Rm. 701, 655 Padre Rada St., Tondo, Manila	Dongsheng Zhang	Assistant Manager
PHILIPPINE PLAZA HOLDINGS, INC. (SOFITEL PHILIPPINE PLAZA) CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City	Quentin Sidney Renard	Assistant F&B Manager
AMAZING PLANET LTD. CO. Rm. 701, 655 Padre Rada St., Tondo, Manila	Yunlu Wang	Creative Manager

If you have any information/objection to the above mentioned application/s please communicate with the Regional Director.

RAYMUNDO G. AGRAVANTE
OIC, Regional Director

The DOLE conducts free seminar on Labor-Human Relations and Productivity. For more information, please call 339-2013 & 303-5820.

(PDI–August 17, 2007)

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European Commission-National Economic and Development Authority
TRADE RELATED TE[redacted]ANCE PROGRAMME

Publication Reference: TRTA Supply/03/07/IT-Hardware-BPS

The NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA) with financial assistance from the *"Trade Related Technical Assistance Programme": Financing Agreement No. ASIA/2004/16781* of the European Communities intends to award a supply contract for the delivery, installation, putting into operation, two (2) years maintenance and warranty and three 5-days training for 5 IT personnel by the Contractor of **IT–HARDWARE** in three (3) lots at the Bureau of Product Standards (BPS), 3rd Floor Trade & Industry Bldg., 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City 1200, Philippines. The tender dossier is available at the Programme Task Force, EC-NEDA Trade Related Technical Assistance Programme located at 5th Floor NEDA sa Pasig, 12 St. Josemaria Escriva Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City and will also be published on the TRTA website: **http://www.trtaphils.org**.

The deadline for submission of tenders is **September 17, 2007**. Possible additional information or clarifications/questions shall be published on the above-mentioned website.

(Sgd.) BRENDA R. MENDOZA
Programme Director

(PDI – August 17, 2007)

Metro Manila festivities in honor of "Ina" Our Virgin of Peñafrancia

THE METRO MANILA FESTIVITIES in honor of "Ina", our Virgin of Peñafrancia and Patroness of the Bicol Region will be on Sept. 6 to 9. A motorcade bringing the image of "Ina" will start at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 6, from Apo Street in Mandaluyong City with a brief visit at the Mandaluyong City Hall and Mandaluyong Medical Center.

The motorcade will end at the St. Andrew the Apostle Parish Church in Bel-Air Village, Makati City, where the daily Triduum of Masses and Novena in honor of the Virgin of Peñafrancia will be held at 6 p.m. on Sept. 6, 7 and 8.

On Sept. 9, Sunday, at 12 noon, there will be a special Mass and Novena at the St. Andrew the Apostle Parish Church followed by a motorcade passing through the streets of Makati, Mandaluyong and Manila and ending the Pasig River for the traditional Peñafrancia Fluvial Procession. Thereafter, "Ina" will then be carried on foot by an all-female procession to Manila Cathedral, where the Solemn Concelebrated High Mass will be celebrated at 6 p.m. by Bishop Nestor C. Cariño, the Spiritual Director of the Peñafrancia Devotees Association.

For inquiries, please call our Secretariat, led by Mrs. Remedios Gacer-Castelo, at Tel. Nos. 531-9430, 531-5177 and 531-8797, or through Mrs. Rosario Prieto-Felipe, M.D., President of the Peñafrancia Devotees Association, at 724-3244.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The public is hereby notified that
SHIRLEEN JUSAYAN FEDILLAGA
whose picture appears below, has been separated from HOMEWORLD SHOPPING CORP since July 7, 2007.

Any transactions entered into by Ms. Fedillaga beyond the aforementioned date shall not be honored by the Company.

(PDI – August 17, 2007)

OBITUARIES

ERRATUM

In the obituary of **ATTY. FELIZARDO SERAPIO, SR.** published August 15, 2007, the name of a grandchild, **ZAR**, was omitted.

The name of one of the sisters **EMMA S. PROTACIO** was erroneously printed as **Emma & Protacio.**

Our Apologies.

JUANITA CONCHAS LLORENTE

has joined our Creator on August 4, 2007
in Las Vegas, Nevada.

She is survived by children **Jag & Margie Gonzales, Danny & Cindy delos Santos**; grandchildren **Catherine Diane, Camille Diane,** and **Dan Joseph**; great-grandchildren **Christen Camille Victoria, Christopher,** and **Clarisse**; brothers **Froilan Conchas,** and **Pablito Conchas.**

Cremated remains will be flown to the Philippines on August 18, 2007. One-day service vigil at Rizal Funeral Homes, Sucat Parañaque. There will be a Mass at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 18. Interment will be on August 19 at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 2 p.m. Mass.

IN LOVING MEMORY
on the 2nd DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF
CAPT. RENE NESSIA JARQUE
Graduate, U.S. Military Academy
(West Point) Class '86 and
member, Philippine Military Academy Class '86
on 19 August 2007

The Holy Mass will be offered Sunday at Libingan ng mga Bayani at 3:00 PM.

We, the family who remember him dearly request relatives and friends to join us in prayer for eternal repose of his soul.

DEATH NOTICE

ELVITA S. CUYUGAN

Died in the grace of our Lord on July 29, 2007 in Chicago, Illinois.

Her cremains was flown to Manila last August 15, 2007 and is now transferred to San Carlos City, Pangasinan for viewing.

Inumment will be on August 19, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

MORE CLASSIFIED ADS: Bicol Medical Center and Pasig River Rehabilitation on Page A24

BUSINESS Friday

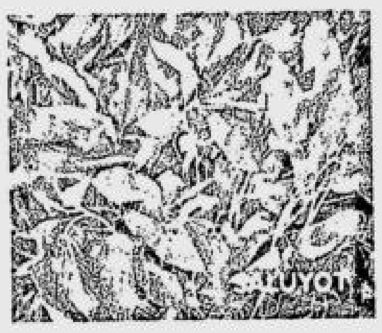
E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/business

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Wanna eat? Let's hit the stre(a)t

MALUNGGAY and Kamote tops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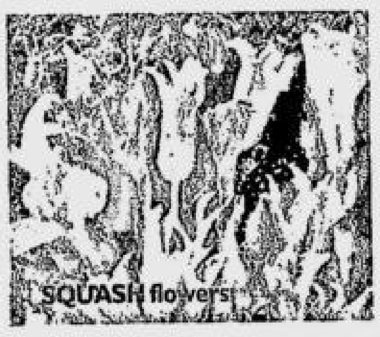
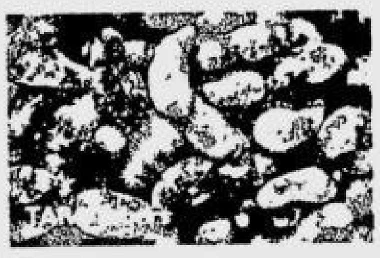

SQUASH flowers



Health advocates say indigenous food healthy

By Juan Escandor Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

PILI, CAMARINES SUR—A NONgovernment organization here is pushing for the reintroduction of nutritious, indigenous food into the communities.

Dr. Susan Balingit of Sandiwaan Center for Responsible Health Care Inc. or Sandiwaan, an NGO focused on rediscovering health traditions and indigenous diet, asserted that "traditional Filipino diet is based on healthy food."

"It is a diet that includes food which nutritionists and health authorities around the world are pretty much in consensus about. Things like whole grains, organic vegetables, and beans. It is a diet very much in harmony with the environment," Balingit said.

Balingit said she and her co-health workers stumbled on the benefits of traditional diet when they noticed that city dwellers were more vulnerable to allergies, colds and ordinary ailments than those who live in rural villages.

Working on the hypothesis that diet has something to do with their health makeup, she said they adopted the diet of villagers, which was mostly vegetables, root crops and whole grains like boiled corn.

Balingit claimed that they became less prone to ordinary ailments after shifting to the villagers' diet.

From this experience, Balingit's group organized the Sandiwaan to promote traditional health practices and diet through small discussion groups and lectures that they hoped would lead to the rediscovery of Filipino health and health-related traditions.

Nancy Obias, a member of Sandiwaan and owner of a vegetarian diner here, said several discussion groups here have been organized. Their members are actively pursuing traditional and organic diet as a lifestyle.

"The first principle is to eat along the lines of traditional dietary practice. The second principle is to change and modify diet according to climate. Be flexible and adapt the food you eat according to the place you live," Balingit said.

The government has embarked on a similar program.

Dr. Edgar R. Madrid, regional technical director for research of the Department of Agriculture (DA) here, revealed that the DA has a program to encourage Filipinos to plant indigenous vegetables in backyard gardens.

Madrid said the program recognizes the proven nutritional value of indigenous vegetables and their resistance to pests.

These include the "alugbati," "lubi-lubi," "kolitis" and "pako." They require no special attention, pesticides and fertilizers to grow.

Madrid revealed that the Bureau of Agricultural Research has so far documented 20 varieties of indigenous vegetables in several towns in Bicol, with the support of the Bicol Integrated Agricultural Research Center in Pili, Camarines Sur.

He said the program's goal is to make indigenous vegetables a big part of the Filipino's diet.

Food sold by the roadside used to turn off hungry diners. Not anymore

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

GOURMANDS AND FINE DINing restaurant owners may not like it, but street food is an inextricable part of the Philippines' gastronomic landscape.

In fact, fish balls, squid balls, kikiam, banana cue, chicken mami, siopao, siomai, barbecue, grilled fish, fried chicken and pansit sold in the city streets by ambulant vendors command a bigger share of the average Filipino's wallet and stomach.

Convenient alternative

A research on street food vendors in Africa and Asia showed that urban households spend as much as half of their food budget on street food, partly because mothers work just like their husbands and have no more time to prepare and cook food for the family.

Street food thus becomes a cheap and convenient alternative.

And yet, the ambulant vendors that ply the busy streets of Metro Manila and key cities in the provinces are not earning as much as they should.

Not enough

Despite brisk sales, most of them end up with just an income of P50 to P150 a day, far from enough to buy these small entrepreneurs the house that they long for and to put their children in good schools.

There are some, however, who are now earning much more than they used to primarily due to the technical and financial assistance provided by the Asian Alliance of Appropriate Technology Practitioners Inc. (Approtech Asia), a nongovernment organization aimed at increasing the poor's access to useful technologies.

Using assistance from the UNDP Regional Energy Program for Poverty Reduction, Approtech last year provided an energy-efficient, fuel-saving charcoal stove, which was developed locally based on a Thai and Cambodian model, to over 100 ambulant food vendors from Manila, Cebu and Davao.

By using charcoal, vendors save much on fuel

Big savings

Approtech Asia executive director Feri G. Lumampao tells the Inquirer in an interview that those who switched fuel sources from liquefied petroleum gas to charcoal saved 70 percent on fuel costs.

Those who converted from kerosene cut their fuel cost by half, and those who converted from a traditional charcoal stove to Approtech's patented cook stove saved 20 percent.

Lumampao says simply changing to a cook stove helped the ambulant food vendors increase their income because fuel expenses eat up as much as 30 percent of their capital.

More capital

By providing them a cheaper fuel alternative, Lumampao says the street vendors now have more capital to put into their business, and reduce their reliance on loan sharks who charge an interest of about 20 percent every two weeks.

Aside from the charcoal stove, Approtech Asia also encouraged the street vendors to attend five seminars designed to make them become better entrepreneurs.

These seminars covered business management; meal planning and food preparation; basic accounting and bookkeeping; food hygiene and sanitation and solar water disinfection to kill bacteria in water.

Lumampao says 56 street vendors from the city of Manila attended the seminars; with 34 completing all five courses held when they are not too busy selling, usually from 2 to 3 in the afternoon.

Approtech Asia teaches street vendors proper hygiene practices

Nutritious food is part of menu

Proud

"Some of the vendors are so proud of their certificate from the courses they even hang it in their stalls. They also use it to borrow some funds from the Department of Social Work and Development," she says.

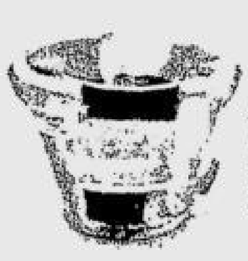
Lumampao adds that because the courses also cover dealing with the banks, the street vendors learn to open their own savings account and to seek help from financial experts, not just the loan sharks.

But more than the financial skills, she says the biggest benefit to consumers is the street vendors' heightened awareness of hygiene and sanitation.

Clean food

"We tell them that they have a social responsibility to their consumers. They have to make sure that what they are selling is clean. If their customers become sick, they will lose income," she says.

It is in this spirit of social responsibility that Approtech took its cooperation with street vendors to another level through its "Indigenous Nutritional Food Packages Promoted by the Entrepreneurial Poor" project.


Approtech Asia's patented cook stove

Prize winner

The project seeks to get at least 200 poor street food vendors to sell indigenous, hygienic, nutritious and affordable food. In this way, consumers get more value for their money while the vendors get to earn more money.

The project was one of two Philippine projects that won top prizes in the 2007 edition of the Global Competition of the World Bank Development Marketplace.

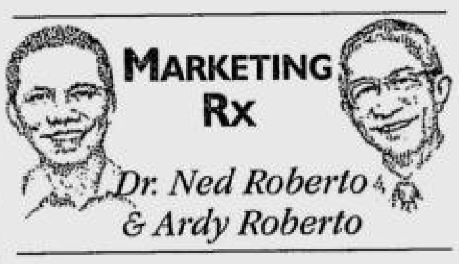
Lumampao says Approtech will set up a central kitchen where street vendors can buy nutritious, indigenous food that they will resell to their customers.

She says five products have been developed so far and are already being sold by some of the street vendors.

These include lemon grass cooler, which can help keep blood pressure at healthy levels; juice made from camote tops; iron fortified polvoron and muffins, mineral-rich squid and fish balls; and spaghetti with coconut milk.

Lumampao says more products are under development so that street vendors will have a wide array of nutritious and delicious food to sell to consumers who can not stay away from street food.

What your market research agency should do for you?


MARKETING Rx
Dr. Ned Roberto & Ardy Roberto

Q: WE ARE CURRENT USERS OF three market research agencies. Our concern is this. Since the market research agency supposedly has the technical expertise and wide experience in research, shouldn't it be part of its responsibility to seriously and effectively develop the questionnaire that will yield the most meaningful data to us but in the process, it should not be boxed in by standard questions? What controls should we put in place to avoid a so-so questionnaire formulation from our research agencies?

A: We have to admit that this is one view of your relationship with your market research agency. Actually it's the traditional and conventional definition of the relationship. It's a perspective that regards the market research agency as a "service supplier." For others who don't use research agencies, this may seem eclectic reading to you and thus tune out. But hold on because you'll learn something on how to deal with service suppliers—like ad agencies, consultants, etc.

In a client-supplier relationship, a research client like yourself selects a supplier based on that supplier's capability and proven track record for delivering according to the terms of its contracted services. In a market survey, the contracted services includes the formulation of a survey questionnaire that will obtain all the consumer data the client wants. That's what you referred to as the research supplier's "responsibility to seriously and effectively develop the questionnaire that will yield the most meaningful data but in the process, it should not be boxed in by standard questions."

It seems clear to us that you have two major specific concerns.

The first is the responsibility of your chosen market research agency to formulate a survey questionnaire that's specifically responsive to your needs.

Your second concern relates to your other need for a customized questionnaire that often will not be served by the agency's "standard" questionnaire.

A partnership set-up for client, supplier

Because you've adopted the client-supplier relationship set-up for attending to your research requirements, you unfortunately open yourself to the greater risk of being disappointed by the servicing of your research requirements. That includes the likelihood of dissatisfaction with what your research supplier will do with your two major specific research concerns just noted in the preceding.

You surely will ask: "But which set-up has the lesser risk?"

That's the partnership arrangement between you and the market research agency.

It's an option you may want to seriously consider. In a partnership set-up, when you agree with your research agency that your company will count them as your business partner in your research needs, it is not the service contract that guides what you and the agency will do about research. You first agree what each of your expertise will contribute to an enlightened and productive research partnership. Let's get specific.

The senior MRx-er has specified in his 2006 User-Friendly Marketing Research book that this agreement should cover the 21 research decisions that any market research project has to make.

"Who decides on who to research, i.e., the target research respondents?"

1. It's the research user for deciding who is the target market segment.

2. Again, the user for deciding from which segment will the most learning come.

"Who decides on how many to research, i.e., the sample size?"

3. It's the research doer for deciding what data variability assumption to take.

4. It's the user for deciding what confidence level to accept.

5. Again, the user for deciding what error margin of the estimate to accept.

6. The user again for deciding how many sub-samples to analyze.

7. Also the user again for deciding how much money to spend on the survey.

"Who decides on how to gather the survey respondents, i.e., the sampling scheme?"

8. It's the research user for deciding what population to generalize to.

9. It's the research doer for deciding how to get the sampling frame.

10. It's the doer again for deciding how to randomly draw the sample.

"Who decides on how to collect the research data, i.e., the data collection method?"

11. It's the research user for deciding what data to collect.

12. It's the research doer for deciding how to collect the data.

13. It's the user for deciding what test material (if any) to use.

14. It's the doer for deciding how to present the test material (if any).

"Who decides on how to formulate the research questionnaire?"

15. It's the research user for deciding what questions to ask.

16. It's the research doer for deciding how to phrase and ask the questions.

17. Again, the doer for deciding how to pretest the questionnaire.

"Who decides on how to read or analyze the research data?"

18. It's the research user for deciding what descriptions to measure.

19. It's the doer for deciding how to present the descriptive measures.

20. It's the user for deciding what relationships to analyze.

21. It's the doer for deciding how to make the relationship analysis.

Look at the portion in the list that relates to your question, "who decides on how to formulate the research questionnaire." You'll notice it's not entirely the responsibility of the researcher. As research user, you also must make one of the research decisions here. It's a partnership.

If you look over the entire 21 research decisions, you'll notice that 12 are in the hands of the research user like you. Only nine are the responsibilities of the researcher.

This is not to say that market research is more your responsibility as research user than the researcher's. It is to say that the research agency cannot do a really good job without your assistance in your role as research user.

Where to help and for what research decisions? Notice that basically speaking, each one in the partnership helps where each expertise is found. As research user, your expertise lies in the "what" research decisions. The research agency's expertise is with the "how" research decisions. Both expertise are needed for market research initiatives aiming for excellence in both design and results.

Questions or comments? E-mail us at marketingrx@pldtdsl.net. Thanks and God bless!

Exciting rewards with Citibank Savings' Elite Privilege Card

RESIDENTS AND OFFICE WORKERS based in Makati City have another great reason to open an account with Citibank Savings-the Elite Privilege Card.

Simply open an account at any of Citibank Savings branches in Makati City located on Ayala Avenue, Legaspi Village, Pasong Tamo, or Pasay Road, and you will receive an Elite Privilege Card. The card will entitle users to exclusive discounts and perks at participating coffee shops and restaurants including Brothers Burger, Ristorante Italiano Capricciosa, Dencio's, Figaro, North Park, Next Door, Tiananmen Bar, Pancake House and Teriyaki Boy.

The Elite Privilege Card also comes with a companion road map with street and building indexes to help you navigate your way around the country's premier business district, and to find the nearest Citibank Savings branch. For existing clients, deposit additional funds and you will also be given an Elite Privilege Card.

"This promotion is our way of reaching out to the communities where our branches are located. We're starting with Makati, but we will roll out the promotion to other cities and provinces in the near future," said Noemi Azura, Citibank Savings' retail banking director.

Use your Elite Privilege Card to avail of great perks and discounts from Makati's popular dining destinations. At Brothers Burger, get 5 percent off on Baby Brothers Burger, French Fries Sampler, Green Delight Salad or Onion Rings Sampler just for a minimum purchase of P300. Love Japanese? At Teriyaki Boy, get the California Maki for free for a minimum purchase of P500.

Craving for pancakes? Get 2 pieces of Chocolate Chip Pancakes at Pancake House for a minimum purchase of P600. Or indulge in Bangus Sisig at Dencio's which you can get for free just for a minimum purchase of P500. At Capricciosa Ristorante Italiano, get a free Sampler Appetizer of Rice Croquette or Bruschetta for a minimum purchase of P500.

Get four pieces of Pinsec Frito at North Park also for free for a minimum purchase of P350. Then get your caffeine fill at Figaro where you can get a free 8 oz. cup of brewed coffee or 12 oz. glass of Iced Tea for a minimum purchase of P250.

The local thrift banking arm of the world's leading financial services company and the country's largest foreign bank, Citibank Savings brings world class banking to more Filipinos around the country in 36 key branch locations nationwide.

One of its more popular products is Power Savings, which offers tiered high interest rates and high daily ATM withdrawable limit at no maintaining balance required. On top of that, you also enjoy no transaction fees when you inquire your balance or withdraw in over 6,500 Bancnet, Megalink or Expressnet ATMs nationwide. You also get the widest coverage at it allows you to access over 860,000 Visa Plus, NYCE or STAR ATMs all over the world.

For more information on Citibank Savings' Elite Privilege Card, call 817-3514 (Ayala Avenue), 894-0581 (Legaspi Village), 893-4950 (Pasong Tamo) or 881-4539 (Pasay Road).

fitness first

NESVITA, FITNESS FIRST UNITE FOR HEALTH, FITNESS

Two of the world's leading brands—Nesvita Pro-Weight Management and Fitness First—have partnered to further promote health and fitness in the country. The partnership enables the two global companies to extend awareness among Filipinos on the importance of weight management through proper nutrition and exercise. Present during the contract-signing were (from left) Trixie Sia, Nesvita Pro-Weight management consumer marketing manager; Trina Abola, Nesvita consumer marketing team leader; Eugene David, Nestlé SVP and business executive manager for beverages and adult health and nutrition; Mark Ellis, Fitness First country manager; and Cheryl Lopez, Fitness First marketing manager. Nesvita is a range of wellness products that also includes Nesvita Cereal Milk Drink, Nesvita Pro-Heart with Acticol, Nesvita Pro-Digestion with Actifibras, and Nesvita Pro-Bone Protection with Calci-Lock.

Robinsons Appliances at Tutuban Mall

ROBINSONS APPLIANCES, ONE OF THE country's foremost names in the appliance industry, recently opened its latest branch at the Tutuban Mall in Divisoria. With this latest development, Robinsons Appliances products are now available in the country's pioneering mall in downtown Manila. Robinsons Appliances incorporated in August 2000 is a joint venture of Robinsons Supermarket Corp and Abenson Inc. The company has now expanded with 14 stores located in various malls nationwide. In Tutuban, Robinsons Appliances is located at Exhibit trade hall area, 2nd floor Centermall one. The "appliance specialty" store carries a wide assortment of quality brands and product lines.

Tutuban Mall's success can be attributed to its ability to cater to a varied market. Along with its transformation into a modern commercial compound as the biggest wholesale and retail shopping complex in the country, the mall has grown from having a cluster building to interconnecting the seven buildings with 1,700 tenants across the country. With the establishment of Robinsons Appliances in Tutuban, shoppers will now have access to quality products offered by the store. Robinsons Appliances carries some of the most reputable brands in the appliance industry such as Phillips, Sony, Samsung, Sharp, LG, Panasonic, JVC, Sanyo, Polytron, Pioneer and Condura to name a few. For the best buys, visit Robinsons Appliances at Tutuban Mall today.

Robinsons Appliances

Manila Water completes P283-M septage plant

MANILA WATER CO INC IS SET TO inaugurate soon a P283-million septage treatment plant in San Mateo, Rizal designed to greatly improve sanitation in northern Metro Manila.

Called the North Septage Treatment Plant, the facility is the second of such structures completed under the P3.14-billion Manila Third Sewerage Project (MSTP) being implemented by Manila Water Co Inc.

Last April 26, Manila Water also commissioned a P330-million wastewater treatment plant built at the Food Terminal Inc (FTI) Complex in Taguig City.

A third septage plant, the largest under the MSTP, is currently being constructed in Barangay Pinugay, Antipolo City.

"We are very much on track as regards our wastewater plans," said Manila Water president Tony Aquino. "With the completion of the Pinugay septage treatment plant in 2008, we expect to be able to significantly contribute to the environmental initiatives of our government by improving sanitation services and minimizing the raw wastewater discharge that pollutes our water systems, particularly the Pasig River," he added.

As envisioned, the MSTP will provide an integrated septage collection and treatment system in Metro Manila's east zone, Manila Water's franchise area. A fleet of desludging tankers will collect the septage from household septic tanks, and transport it to the septage plants for treatment.

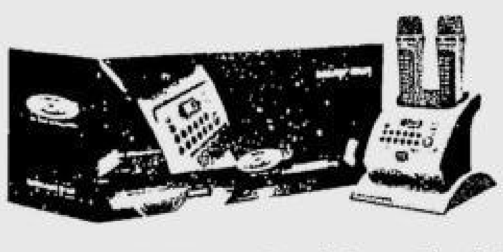
The San Mateo facility which will serve over 167,000 households in San Mateo and Rodriguez town in Rizal, as well as Quezon City and Marikina City, will have a capacity of 586 million cubic meters per day.

On the other hand, the FTI plant would serve some 86,000 households in Taguig, the nearby cities of Makati, Mandaluyong and Pasig and the towns of San Juan and Pateros.

Wow! ...wireless na!

AMONG DIFFERENT BRANDS OF VIDEOKE systems, WOW!, the best selling Magic Sing, has distinguished itself over the years for offering innovative features that eliminate the fuss associated with other videoke systems.

Its newest model, the WOW! Wireless Concerto Edition (ED 11000) does away with the hassles associated with microphone cables by going wireless, and now comes with 10 song-chip storage capacity, enabling you to expand your music library!



With a range of seven meters, WOW! Concerto wireless microphone is easy to pass around without snagging on anyone's limbs or tipping over somebody's drink. Its rechargeable battery can also deliver eight solid hours of videoke party fun on a single charge.

And why not double or triple the fun? The unit's main station can accommodate a wireless duet microphone and a wired microphone, enabling you and your friends to blend voices in musical menage-a-trois!

Beyond going wireless, the product offers connectivity with a USB interface that allows you to transfer new or recorded songs between your unit and your PC. Along with dramatically improved picture quality (720 x 480 Resolution Interlace) that can be routed to a standard TV monitor or even a projection screen, you get an External Video Background Input that allows you to play your very own choice of background video from a camera or any video player.

Moreover, you can manage its features and settings via the product's remote control device.

With its Pitch Transposition feature, you can adapt songs for male to female or vice-versa; cue up to 20 songs from its built-in library of 2,064 songs or load up to 10 Song Chips inside its song chip slot; and its Key, Tempo, Volume, and Echo Controls allows you to fine tune the quality of your musical accompaniment and voice for note perfect renditions of your favorite songs.

And on top of its 3 Level Score Check (difficulty level) amateur, professional, and star singer, WOW! Concerto gives you an automatic Singing Tutor Function on Professional & Star Singer level with 4 Changing Lyric Colors that guide your performance as you sing: green - either too fast or too slow, blue - low voice pitch, red - high voice pitch, and black - perfect sync with music and lyrics.

And to end all those stories that begin with "Wow dude! You missed so-and-so's singing five minutes after you left!", its Record and Playback function allows you to save and replay those stellar performances, with its eight minutes Built-In Recording or get up to one hour of recording time with a Blank Recording Chip (optional).

WOW! Wireless Concerto Edition is exclusively distributed by In-A-Jiffy Enterprises/G2K Corp and available at leading music stores and appliance centers nationwide. For more information, call 362-1566/361-9450 local 835 - 836 or 724-7079/722-5127.

First-ever PAD Awareness Day celebration a success

PEOPLE ALL OVER THE PHILIPPINES gathered in different hospitals and health centers to participate in the first-ever "Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) Awareness Day" celebration July 20.

Recently, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, in her Proclamation No. 1321, declared July 20 as PAD Awareness Day. This is to emphasize the need of educating the Filipino people about PAD, to recognize its risk factors, and to prevent the hazards it will bring to one's health and well-being.

PAD is one of many complications of diabetes which is often under-diagnosed and under treated. Dr. Araceli A. Panelo, executive director of Institute for the Studies on Diabetes Foundation Inc (ISDFI) said, "In the Philippines alone, about 20 percent of the 87 million population is suffering from PAD. This is why we, (ISDFI) together with Otsuka Philippines Pharmaceuticals Inc, are collaborating to expand our mission of preventing PAD through the PAD Awareness Day celebration."

The PAD Awareness Day celebration is dedicated for patients with PAD or those who are at risk of PAD. Through this activity, patients received free ankle brachial index (ABI) screening. ABI screening is a patient-friendly, inexpensive technique that compares blood pressure between the patient's arms and ankles. It is a very useful tool in detecting PAD.

Aside from free ABI screening, patients also get free sample medicines for PAD. There are lay fora conducted to educate them about PAD. During the celebration, several hospitals, health centers, as well as diabetes centers participated in the event. Some of the hospitals and health centers that joined in this worthwhile celebration were Amang Rodriguez Medical Center in Marikina City, Pasig City Health Office, Antipolo City Health Office, Caloocan General Hospital, Mandaluyong City Health Office and Pasay City General Hospital.

PAD is a problem with the blood flow in the arteries due to build up of fatty deposits. Most common symptom of PAD is claudication or leg pains. This happens when there is insufficient supply of blood in the muscles due to blockage. Patients with diabetes, hypertension, cholesterol problems, and even smokers are at risk of developing PAD. PAD is also associated with higher risk of heart attack, stroke and even premature death. Thus, early detection is needed in order to prevent PAD.

The PAD Awareness Day celebration aims to improve the on-going information and public education campaign of ISDFI and Otsuka to further benefit PAD patients nationwide.

For more information about PAD, call the i-PAD connect hotline at 811-i-PAD (811-4-723) for Metro Manila or 1-800-1-888-i-PAD (1-800-1-888-4-723) for provincial areas.

FOUNDATION, INC.
together with
Philippine Society of Va lar M
PAD

SHOWN are the men and women behind the celebration of the first-ever PAD Awareness Day. Standing, from left, are Miriam A. Villanueva, Doer's club president; Dr. Araceli Panelo, ISDF executive director; Tavs Veloso, product management trainee, Otsuka; Dr. Jelmeen Agra, ISDF fellow at UERMMC; Raquel Bartolome, medical representative, Otsuka; and Kervin dela Cruz, marketing manager, Otsuka. Shown inset is a man undergoing Ankle Brachial Index (ABI) screening with one of the medical staff at the Antipolo City Health Center, one of the many centers that joined the PAD Awareness Day celebration.

Pervil gives MNCs run for their money

IN AN INDUSTRY DOMINATED BY GIANT players, unlimited advertising budgets and sleek images, an upstart Philippine cosmetics is giving the Goliaths a run for their money with its no-frills products, relying mainly on word of mouth to capture the loyalty of beauty-conscious clients all over the world.

Pervil Cosmetics Philippines gained popularity for its magic whitening cream which, customers insist, really work wonders by lightening the naturally dark Filipina complexion in a matter of weeks.

Started as a backyard project by overseas Filipino worker Teresita Perez-Villanueva, Pervil started formal operations in the Philippines in 2004 after Villanueva and her husband decided to put up a manufacturing plant in their hometown of Cabanatuan City to meet the ever-growing demand for their magic cream.

Before that, Villanueva was producing her magic cream in her quarters during her off duty hours as a nurse in Saudi Arabia. She would then ship her finished products to the Philippines via door-to-door delivery, and her husband would distribute it in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

Demand continued rising as friends and acquaintances from all over the world kept on asking for the magic cream, and Villanueva found it increasingly difficult to meet the growing demand. Thus, after 25 years in Saudi Arabia, she decided to come home for good and put up Pervil.

Three years in the local market, Pervil's Magic Cream is now sold in the country's biggest department stores and drug chains such as Watsons and Mercury Drug.

"Our customers just keep coming back for more. And they all swear our product works."

Pervil Cosmetics Philippines' state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Cabanatuan City produces not only its Magic Cream but also its cream soap, lotion and moisturizing sun block cream.

The company has also increased its distribution network nationwide to include the SM Supermarket and SM Hypermarket chains, HBC, Landmark, Southstar Drug, Makro and Ever Supermarket.

More information about Pervil may be obtained from its sales and marketing office at Unit 20-E Timog Avenue, Quezon City, or call 376-5043 to 44, or log on to www.pervil.com.

Storm of shopping selections at the Rockwell Urban Bazaar

THIS RAINY SEASON, EXPERIENCE A STORM OF stylish shopping selections at the Rockwell Urban Bazaar happening at the Rockwell Tent Aug. 18 and 19. Showcasing a mosaic of products from established brands, young entrepreneurs and new players in the retail scene, the Urban Bazaar is a shopping haven for the chic set looking for a unique mix of women's fashions, men's lines, accessories, beauty, home items, knick-knacks and more. This season's Urban Bazaar is a sequel to the widely successful one held last summer, where hit brands such as V Clothing, Wisdom and Rainstorm made waves. Now, there's even more reason for stylephiles to troop to the Rockwell Tent this weekend as more up-and-coming fashion finds will take centerstage in this exciting bazaar. Mark your calendar for the Urban Bazaar at the Rockwell Tent and cure your rainy day blues with a dose of fashion therapy!

Asia Pacific College supports 2007 Skate Asia

ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE SPONSORS THE 2007 SKATE Asia currently being held until Aug 18, with the SM Skating Rink as host for this annual event. The venue is the SM Mall of Asia. Skate Asia is an international recreational ice skating competition participated in by around 1,000 competitors. It attracts skaters of all ages from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Russia, United States, Canada, Mexico, India, Australia, Korea, Japan, Singapore, Macau as well as several European countries. APC, as one of Skate Asia's partners, will be providing 50 student volunteers. The APC Volunteers will assist in the tabulating or results, usher, act as Ice Marshals, attend to the queries of foreign skaters, assist the food committee, and other tasks that may be given them.

100 Years of Excellence and Leadership in Quality Health Care for the Filipino

Tatak PGH - A century of excellence in teaching and training

By Armando C. CrisostomoChair, PGH Centennial Celebrations Committee

AS THE PGH CELEBRATES its centennial, it can proudly look back at a century of having represented the noblest goals of the health professions - serving both as the refuge of countless poor sick Filipinos and as the repository of the brightest minds in Philippine medicine, nursing and other heath-related professions. For many years, the PGH has been regarded as the best teaching and training hospital in the country.

A number of improvements both now and in the future, are envisioned to ensure that PGH continues its mission of serving as the country's teaching and training Mecca. The current administration is "modernizing, upgrading, rehabilitating and reinventing" its facilities and equipment to benchmark it as one of the best university hospitals in Asia. State-of-the-art facilities and equipment are being acquired not only to make these available for patient services, but also to ensure that PGH trainees are up to par with the most modern technologic advances in their respective health fields. Lastly, funding for research is expected to increase. This and the application of evidence-based medical decision-making and practices formulated in PGH are similarly converging in order to ensure that the PGH continues to significantly play a role in improving the quality of life of every Filipino.

Clearly, by serving as the training ground for the leading health professionals that have served and contimue to serve their country, the PGH legacy to the nation extends beyond its walls and seeks to touch the lives of each and every Filipino now and in the next century to come.

Service at its Best

The UP-Philippine General Hospital, being the largest government health institution in the country continuously serves almost thousands of in-patients and out-patients daily since it was created in August 1907. After 100 years, the hospital remains true to its commitment of serving and giving the most comprehensive yet affordable health services.

On its centennial year, it rededicates itself to the continuing task of rendering comprehensive quality healthcare services to the Filipino people especially to the marginalized sector of the society. The theme of the centenary celebration dubbed as "100 Years of Leadership and Excellence in Quality Health Care for the Filipinos" reflects the institution's vision of continuing service, improving and empowering the lives of million Filipinos.

Not only does the hospital believe in the delivery of comprehensive quality healthcare but on the basis of evidence-based medical interventions meant not only to provide treatment per se but redounds to cost-effective interventions with better outcomes.

The hospital has been a one-stop shop and it caters to almost all the much-needed health provisions of healthy and sick Filipinos. Despite being faced with the financial challenges from meager funding due to the rising costs of medicine and treatment, the UP-PGH administration has continued to satisfactorily meet patient's needs through creative resource generating activities and potentially through the assistance of generous support groups. The hospital has acquired modern facilities and equipment that respond to the needs of patients undergoing diagnostics and therapeutic procedures through donations from private institutions and organizations. Presently, different parts of the hospital, especially the charity wards that houses indigent patients and the operating room complex are undergoing renovation through the efforts of the PGH administration and the PGH Medical Foundation Inc.

With best efforts the UP-PGH is geared to meet the challenges to provide the country with the best health care services and facilities that are accessible and affordable to every Filipino.

Regardless of whatever challenge, UP PGH will continue to uphold the pillar of service and it will continually stand by its noble purpose of being the premier university hospital providing healthcare services to the people and at the same time pioneering in the training of competent and compassionate healthcare professionals.

Inspired and driven by the commitment to serve, UP-PGH continuously respond to the daunting task of modernizing, upgrading and reinventing PGH to meet the health care needs of every Filipino. It has given "Legacy" and "Service" their true meanings. For another 100 years, it is certain the UP-PGH will continue to transform and empower the lives of Filipinos and will strive to uplift the health care system of the country. *Apple P. Valparaiso MD*

PGH ACQUIRES US $1M DONATION FROM COCA-COLA

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On August 17, 2007, the PGH will be celebrating 100 years of standing by this noble tradition. And to help the PGH continue doing what they do best, the hospital received a US $1 million donation from Coca-Cola.

A small ceremony was held last March 29, 2007 at the PGH to honor the contribution made by Coca-Cola to the hospital. Dr. Carmelo Alfiler, director of the PGH, extended his thanks to the company. "PGH today is really blessed as we approach our centennial year. We have really been counting our blessings since last year; we have had a wellspring of philanthropy from both the government and the private sector. Of course today we are overwhelmed by this donation from Coca-Cola."

"This donation will really go a long way in rebuilding three patient pay blocks and one charity ward," he continued. "And these blocks will not only render service to the paying patients of the hospital, but also to the poor and marginalized patients of the charity wards. These pay blocks will also generate some income which we will use for the operation of the hospital in general. So with that, I join the whole PGH community in thanking Coca-Cola for this very generous donation."

This ceremony was attended by Mr. Neville Isdell, Chairman and CEO of the company, who handed over the donation to PGH. "I want to salute all the men and women who have dedicated themselves over a hundred years to help the PGH to be what it is today. And I come of service to the Filipino," he stated.

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Also in celebration of the PGH's centennial, Coca-Cola collaborated with the institution to release supplements in major dailies and magazines. These supplements contain interesting information about the colourful history of PGH and the state of the hospital today.

You can also help the PGH. For more information visit www.pghmedfoundation.org or www.pgh.gov.ph.

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THE PHILIPPINE GENERAL HOSPITAL
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MANILA
and the
PGH MEDICAL FOUNDATION, INC.
welcome
E. NEVILLE ISDELL
"ONE MILLION USD"

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Bawat patak, nagdadagdag lakas.

Nakikipatak kami sa pagpapasigla ng pangangatawan. Sa pamamagitan ng aming NutriBreak Feeding Program at ng Kineti-Kids! It's Fun to be Fit Program, nabibigyan ng dagdag na sustansya at kaalaman sa kalusugan ang mga mag-aaral ng mga paaralang kabilang sa mga programang ito.

The Coca-Cola Company
bawat patak, mahalaga™
[illegible] more information log on to [illegible]

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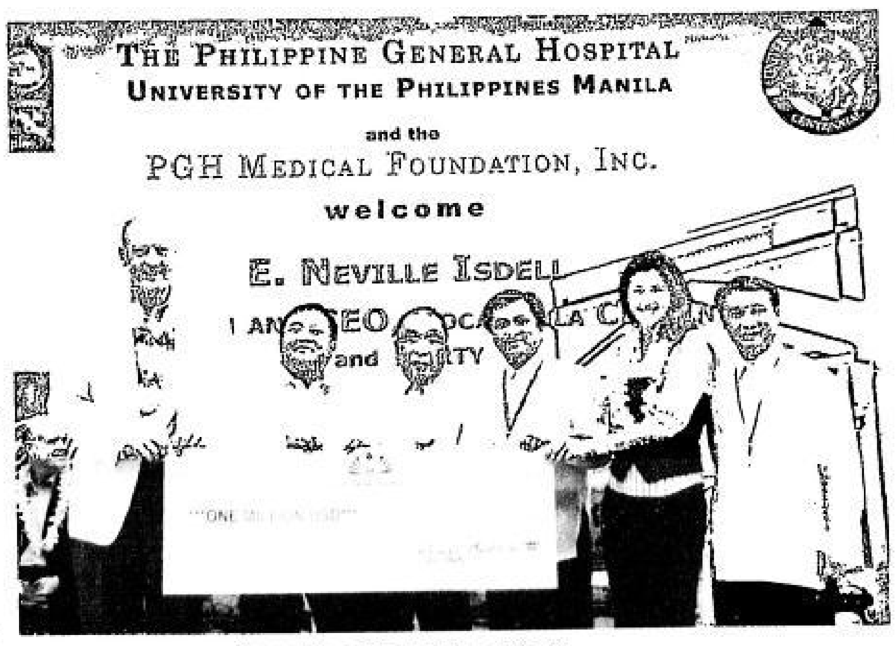
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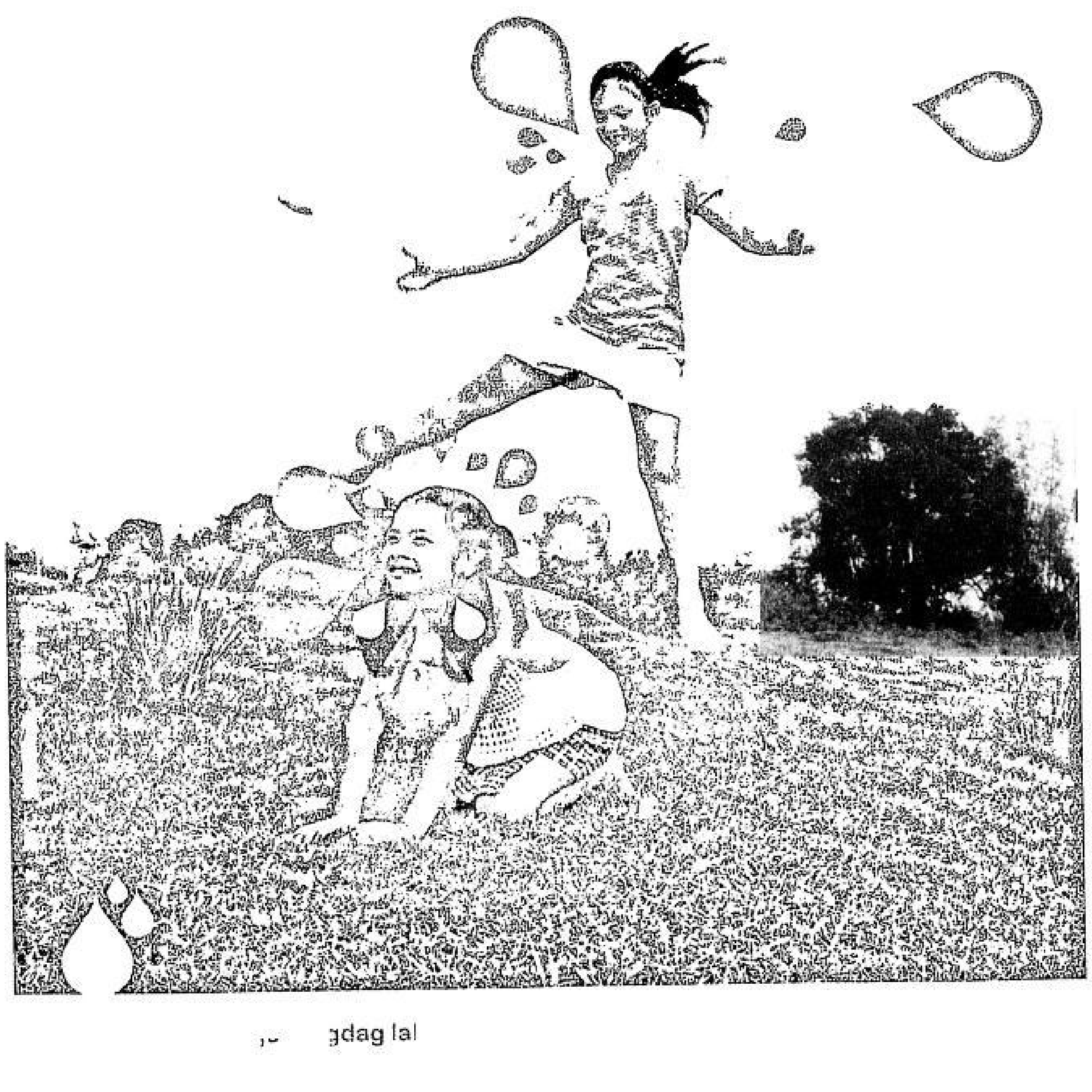


One year into the better, brighter future.

Highlights of WESM's 1st year of successful operation.

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

MESSAGE FROM PGMA

Warmest congratulations to the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM) as you enter your second year of operation.

As an institution mandated to stimulate competition in the generation sector to ensure the efficient production of electricity, the WESM is instrumental in achieving our long-term goal of lower costs of electricity while assuring investment in future capacity to meet our electricity demand as our country grows. Already, our commitment to the reform process is reaping benefits through renewed and strengthened investor interest in our power sector. As testament to this, over the last year, we have been able to privatize more than a thousand megawatts of installed capacity at prices that set international benchmarks.

As we enter into the next decade, the WESM will help us surmount the challenges ahead by always ensuring a fair and level playing field for all participants in the sector, present and future.

To the men and women of WESM, keep up the good work!

Mabuhay!

Gloria Arroyo
GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

MESSAGE FROM ATR

Congratulations to the Philippine Electricity Market Corporation (PEMC) on the First Anniversary of the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM).

The establishment of WESM will assure our countrymen affordable electricity and improved delivery of services through cost-efficient trade and investments in the power industry. The essence of WESM's creation is to institute reform and greater empowerment of stakeholders by giving them a choice.

As I assume the board chairmanship of PEMC that governs WESM, I am optimistic that WESM will play a pivotal role in attaining the goals of the Philippine Energy Plan 2005-2014. I therefore urge the men and women of this establishment to join ranks with the industry players towards developing as appropriate, equitable and transparent electricity market, along with a safe, reliable and efficient operation of the power system.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

ANGELO T. REYES
Secretary of Energy

Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE ELECTRICITY MARKET CORPORATION

MESSAGE FROM LAH

The WESM survived its first year, despite everything. That it even reached commercial operations at all is somewhat unexpected, as no where else in the world are they trying to implement so competitive a framework in a country with very little experience in anti-trust and competition regulation. Somehow, we made it through the critical first year, and with the WESM's establishment, another milestone of the reform process has been accomplished. That the market has proved itself robust is testament to the dedication of the countless men and women of the electricity industry, both government and private, who have contributed to its development since its inception.

Already, the landmark achievement has caused energy investors to take a second look at the Philippine power sector. Since the start of the WESM last year, three large government-owned power plants, namely Magat, Pantabangan and Masinloc, have been successfully sold to the private sector. In the same period, Mirant also successfully sold its interest in the 1,200 MW Sual and 728 MW Pagbilao power plants to Team Energy, making the Philippines one of the most active energy sectors for investment in the world.

This sale of government power plants goes a long way to achieving the two remaining objectives of the EPIRA, as the forthcoming sale of the 600 MW Calaca Coal Plant (assuming successful) will bring the level of privatization to 60 per cent, which is very close to open access thresholds. The other remaining objective is the long-delayed establishment of a private sector administrator for the Independent Power Producers (currently traded by PSALM Corporation), which still lacks any firm structure and schedule, despite numerous position papers and recommendations that have been presented. Once established though, the reform objectives will have been truly accomplished.

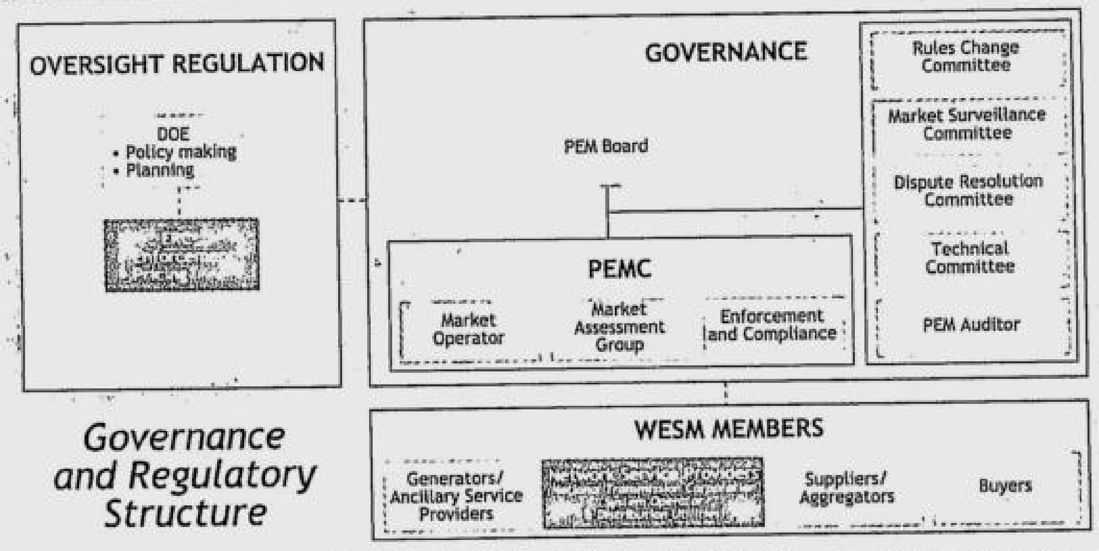
The Electric Power Industry Reform Act ("EPIRA") of July 2001 made a fundamental assumption that we, as a country and as consumers, will be better off with an electric industry where operational competence and financial investment come from the private sector, with government focusing on creating a regulatory and industry environment that encourages efficiency through competition. The WESM is intended to establish a venue for this competition, but until these remaining EPIRA objectives are met, it cannot claim to be a truly competitive market.

Our ability to succeed at these reforms will determine our country's competitiveness in the next decade of worldwide energy scarcity, and indeed we are at a critical time. The choice before us is really simple, either we trust in the law and work for its immediate and full execution; or we find a better plan, fast. Personally I do not know of one, but from the recent developments, we really do not need one if we just stay the course.

As we go through these final stages, we can draw inspiration from the words of Hon. David Parker, the Minister of Energy in New Zealand; "We're entering a brave new world, but I have no doubt the energy sector can respond in transforming itself in response. This will allow us to keep the lights on – not just for this generation, but for the many others coming after us."

LASSE A. HOLOPAINEN
President, PEMC

WESM Governance and Regulatory Structure



Governance and Regulatory Structure

The various Committees of the PEMC fulfill the principles of self-governance among the electricity industry participants.

1. **Rules Change Committee (RCC).** The RCC is tasked to keep pace with the evolving electricity market through the timely and appropriate creation or revision of the governing rules of the WESM. All amendments or new rules are subject to approval by the PEM Board and the Department of Energy. The RCC membership mirrors the composition of the PEM Board.

Chairman: Lasse A. Holopainen, PEMC (Independent)
Vice Chairman: Robinson P. Descanzo, PEMC (Market Operations)
Members/ Alternate:
Jesusito S. Sulit (Transco)
Nixon G. Hao (Meralco)
Vicente C. Sioson (Meralco)
Crisanto R. Laset, Jr. (PEPOA)
Pablo M. Pan (NEA)
Jose H. Seguban (NEA)
Wendell V. Ballesteros (PHILRECA)
Tomas B. Vivero (PHILRECA)
Melburgo S. Chiu (NPC)
Oscar C. Lorico (NPC)
Dennis P. Gonzales (PIPPA)
Ina Ariola-Bonoan (PIPPA)
Dennis A. de la Serna (PSALM)
Liberty Z. Dumlao (PSALM)
Ramon B. Diaz de Rivera (PNOC-EDC)
Manolo T. Candeleria (PNOC-EDC)
Phares P. Parayno (Independent)

2. **Market Surveillance Committee (MSC).** The MSC monitors and surveys participant activity in the WESM for apparent or suspected incidents of anti-competitive behavior. The MSC also reviews investigations in cases of suspected or reported breaches and recommends rules changes to preserve the institutional integrity of the market and curb abuse. The MSC is comprised of highly qualified and experienced independent members.

Chairman: Danilo P. Mercado, Sr.
Rolando A. Danao
Bernarda C. Lavisores
Peter L. Wallace
(1 remaining position to be filled)

3. **Dispute Resolution Administrator/Group (DRG).** The DRG is chaired by the Dispute Resolution Administrator (DRA) in order to facilitate and ensure the timely, efficient and cost effective resolution of any WESM related dispute that may arise between participants or stakeholders. The DRA/ DRG provide a professional dispute resolution service to the participants with particular competence in the application and interpretation of the WESM rules.

Dispute Resolution Administrator: Joel J. Marciano
Dispute Resolution Group:
Rogelio M. Avenido
Victorio Mario A. Dimagiba
Alfredo J. Non
German A. Umali
(3 remaining positions to be filled)

4. **Technical Committee.** The Technical Committee provides expertise to the market in relation to information technology, metering data, and other technical matters. In the exercise of its functions, the Technical Committee may propose rule changes to improve the efficiency of the market and the attainment of WESM objectives.

Members:
Edgar F. Alcazar
Carlito C. Claudio
Meleusipo E. Fonollera Sr.
Francis V. Mapile
(1 remaining position to be filled)

5. **PEM Auditor.** The PEM Auditor conducts annual audit of the Market Operator, settlement system, and any other procedures relevant to the spot market. The PEM Auditor checks any new item or version of software and reviews any new procedures and practices under the WESM Rules. The PEM Auditor may also recommend changes in WESM Rules and manuals to the Rules Change Committee if the Auditor detects deficiencies in the rules, market manuals, and protocols of WESM based on its evaluation.

Members:
Felixberto Bustos
Gloria Victoria Taruc
(1 remaining position to be filled)

The Philippine Electricity Market Board

PEMC Board of Directors

Chairman of the PEMC Board:
Hon. Angelo T. Reyes, *Secretary of Energy – 2007-present*

Transmission Sector:
Mr. Arthur N. Aguilar, *President and CEO,*
National Transmission Corporation – 2006-present

Market Operator:
Engr. Mario R. Pangilinan, *Executive Vice President,*
Philippine Electricity Market Corporation – 2003-present

Generation Sector:
Mr. Ernesto B. Pantangco, *President,*
Philippine Independent Power Producers Association – 2003-present
Mr. Cyril C. del Callar, *President, National Power Corporation – 2005-present*
Mr. Jose C. Ibazeta, *President and CEO,*
Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation – 2007-present
Mr. Lee Kang Won, *President and CEO,*
Korea Electric Power Company-Philippines – 2007-present

Distribution Sector:
Mr. Jesus P. Francisco, *President and COO, Manila Electric Company – 2003-present*
Mr. Wilfred L. Billena, *General Manager, Iloilo 1 Electric Cooperative – 2003-present*
Mr. Gerardo P. Verzosa, *General Manager, Benguet Electric Cooperative – 2004-present*
Mr. Deon P. James, *Private Electric Power Operators Association – 2004-present*

Independent:
Mr. Lasse A. Holopainen, *President,*
Philippine Electricity Market Corporation – 2003-present
Mr. Ernie B. Santiago, *President,*
Semiconductor and Electronics Industries Philippines – 2004-present

Past Chairmen of the PEMC Board
Hon. Raphael P.M. Lotilla, *Secretary of Energy – 2005-2007*
Hon. Vicente S. Perez, Jr., *Secretary of Energy – 2003-2005*

Past Members of the PEMC Board of Directors
Atty. Vigor D. Mendoza II, *Executive Director,*
Philippine Ecozones Association (Independent) – 2003-2007
Engr. Meleusipo E. Fonollera, *Institute of Integrated Electrical Engineers*
of the Philippines (Independent) – 2003-2007
Mr. Lee Gil Gu , *President and CEO, Korea Electric Power Company-Philippines*
(Generation) – 2006-2007
Ms. Nieves L. Osorio, *President, Power Sector Assets and Liabilities*
Management Corporation (Generation) – 2005-2007
Dr. Alan T. Ortiz, *President and CEO, National Transmission Corporation*
(System Operation) – 2003-2006
Mr. Edgardo A. Bautista, *President, Mirant Philippines (Generation) – 2003-2006*
Mr. Froilan A. Tampinco, *Vice President for Asset Valuation and Disposal, Power Sector*
Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (Generation) – 2003- 2005
Mr. Pio J. Benavidez, *Senior Vice President for Generation, National Power Corporation*
(Generation) – 2003-2005
Engr. Geromin T. Nepomuceno, Jr., *President, Angeles Electric Corporation,*
(Distribution Utility) – January-June 2004
Mr. Ramon C. Abaya, *Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association*
(Distribution Utility) – 2003-2004
Mr. Evangel A. Manundo, *General Manager, Batangas II Electric Cooperative*
(Distribution Utility) – 2003-2004
Mr. Elvico B. Gumban, *Semiconductor and Electronics Industries Philippines*
(Independent) – 2003-2004

What is WESM?

The Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM) is a venue where buyers (distribution utilities and electric cooperatives) and sellers (generation companies) trade electricity every hour. It is open to generators, distribution utilities, directly-connected customers, large customers, and eventually supply aggregators with at least one (1) mega-watt of electricity requirement. In the WESM, electricity is traded in real-time because electricity, by nature, is difficult to store and has to be available on demand.

Trading in the WESM is quite simple. After the trading participants submit their hourly energy offers online, the Market Operator (MO) matches the offers of the generators with the bids of the customers. The lowest offers from the generators and the highest bids from the customers are prioritized.

The MO then submits the dispatch schedule to the System Operator for central dispatch and informs the trading participants of the price and schedule. Finally, electricity is dispatched to the buyer who in turn distributes it to the end-users. The electricity used is measure and settled using the market clearing price and schedule.

The WESM was created as a result of Republic Act 9136 or the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA). One of the provisions of the EPIRA is the establishment of an electricity market that reflects the actual cost of electricity. By fostering competition, the WESM will become a driving force towards reflecting the true cost of electricity. It will provide an efficient and transparent venue for trade and investment in the power industry.

Wholesale Electricity Spot Market

The Power to Make a Brighter Future.

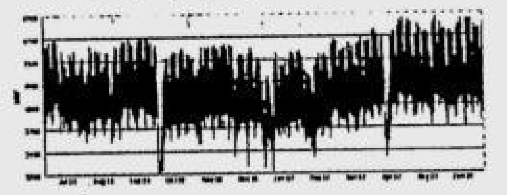
The WESM aims to achieve the following:

1. To create a transparent, fair, and equal trading venue for suppliers and buyers of electricity.
2. To provide competition and incentives for power producers to be more efficient, thus bringing down the over-all cost of electricity.
3. To provide real-time pricing information that guides WESM participants, future investors, and the public.

MARKET OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
(June 26, 2006 – June 25, 2007)

DEMAND CONDITION

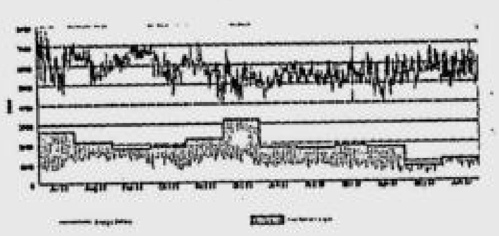
The first year of WESM's commercial operation in Luzon recorded an average demand of 4,751 MW, with the highest peak recorded at 2pm on 18 May 2007[1] and the lowest was experienced on New Year's Day at 7 am with 2,538 MW. Maximum average demand was 5,249 MW registered in May 2007. Meanwhile, damage caused by tropical typhoon "Milenyo" on 28 September 2006 caused a power system collapse in the Luzon power system which lasted for 5 days and decreased the demand in September 2006 to an average of 4,323 MW.



Each month identified in this document refers to the billing months of WESM which starts on the 26th of the previous calendar month and ends on the 25th of the current calendar month; i.e., July 2006 covers June 26 to July 25, 2006.

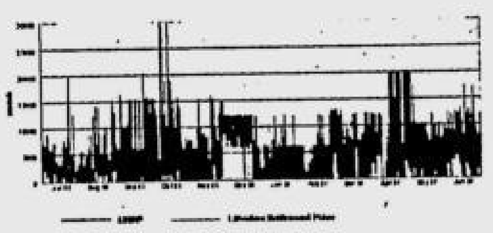
SUPPLY CONDITION

Electricity supply for the year was affected by various factors including the level of energy offers by the trading participants, level of hydro dispatch, and generating plant outages. The average electricity supply offered into the market averaged 5,685 MW with the highest quantity reaching 7,873 MW early in the operation of the market. It is noteworthy that after the first two months of WESM operations, total offers almost never exceeded 7,000 MW. The lowest volume offered reached 3,950 MW on 14 March 2007 at 5AM. Capacity on outage shows limited correlation to the energy offers with the highest capacity outage experienced in December 2006 reaching 3,188 MW due to the 5-year maintenance conducted on the Malampaya Shallow Water Platform during that period. The unavailability of the Natural Gas during this period, as well as the reduced plant generation from the hydro plants (lack of water supply) and the coal plants (lack of fuel) during March to May 2007, were made up for by using significantly more expensive diesel and oil-based plants. Throughout the year, electricity supply offers were insufficient to meet demand during 15% of the total trading intervals.



MARKET PRICES

Average Load Weighted Average Price (LWAP) was highest in December 2006 at P7,816/MWh and was lowest in July 2006 at P2,788/MWh. Annual LWAP* was P5,105/MWh. Effective settlement prices** ranged from a low of P3,255/MWh in July 2006 to a high of P9,809/MWh in December 2006, and averaged at P5,804/MWh throughout the year.



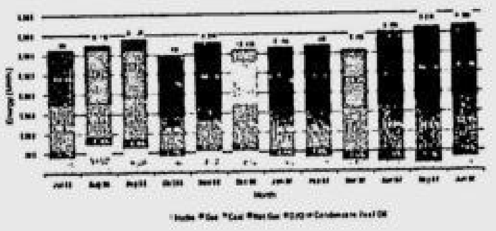
* *Expressed in Pesos per Megawatt hours. To translate this number to kilowatt hour costs (the unit in the homeowner's bill) divide by 1,000. To illustrate, 5,000Pesos/MWh is equivalent to 5.00 Pesos/KWh.*

** *Effective settlement prices represent the amount paid by the WESM customers, considering market transactions and line rentals.*

ENERGY MIX

Power generation in Luzon (including can be categorized into six types:

Hydroelectric, Geothermal, Coal, Natural Gas, Diesel Oil and **Wind**. Condensity is only used as a back-up fuel for the Sta. Rita and San Lorenzo Natural Gas Plants.



A total of 38,179,544 MWh was traded through the WESM over its first year of operations, with a daily average of 104,602 MWh.

Geothermal Energy was a fairly consistent contribution to the energy share, averaging 6.57% per month.

Forced and unplanned outages, as well as restricted availability of fuel resulted in decreased supply from coal plants from August 2006 to April 2007.

Natural Gas dispatch, with the exception of the planned Malampaya Platform maintenance in late November/early December, has been consistent throughout the year.

Diesel and **Oil Generating Plant** share experienced increased dispatch from April to June 2007, benefiting from the lack of coal and low hydro levels.

MARKET PERFORMANCE: MARKET INDICES

PRICE VOLATILITY

Extreme price volatility as measured by hourly changes in market price was observed throughout the first year of WESM's operation. Prices had a tendency to rise and fall way above average levels, indicating extreme swing of prices. The Load Weighted Average Price (LWAP) data is also positively skewed, indicating that the extreme deviation of the prices was biased upward.

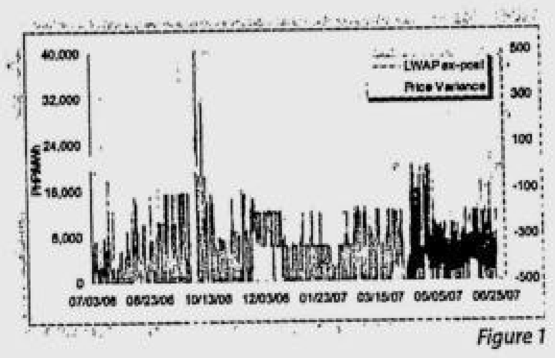


Figure 1

PRICE SETTING FREQUENCY INDEX (PSFI)

The PSFI measures how often a power generator sets the price for a particular period. A generator qualifies as price setter in a particular trading interval if the generator's accepted offer is between 95%-100% of the nodal price.

As seen in Figure 2, coal-fired Pagbilao was the most frequent price setter during peak hours, dictating the price almost 33% of the time. Far second was the natural gas-run Kepco Ilijan, which was setting prices 23% of the time during peak hours for the period.

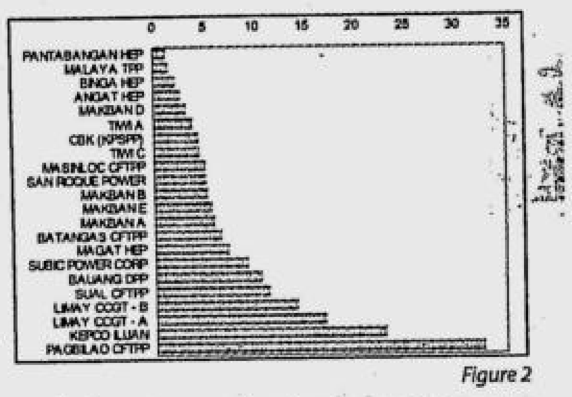


Figure 2

The price setting role during off-peak hours was more evenly distributed among several plants with the gas-fired plants Sta. Rita FGPP and San Lorenzo FGPP, and the diesel-fueled Quezon Power. The rest of the price setters during off-peak hours were five hydroelectric, three coal-fired and four geothermal power plants.

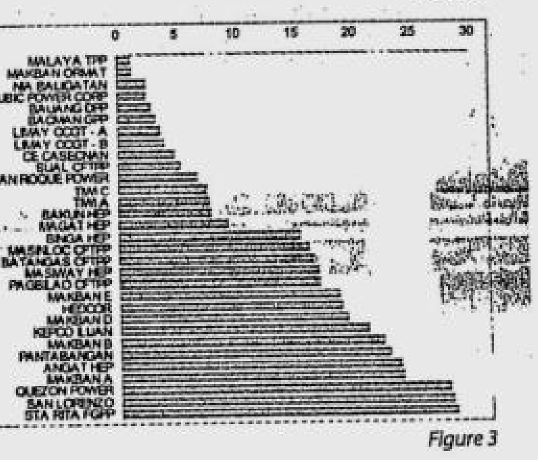


Figure 3

PIVOTAL SUPPLIER FREQUENCY INDEX (PSI)

The PSI measures how often a generator is pivotal for a particular period. A generator is pivotal if the power system demand cannot be fully supplied without it.

On an average, Sta. Rita FGPP was the pivotal supplier in most number of trading intervals and closely followed by Kepco Ilijan. Both of these plants run on natural gas and were the designated pivotal supplier for more than half of the time. This is a notable result because Kepco Ilijan was a top-setter of market prices during the peak hours for the whole year.

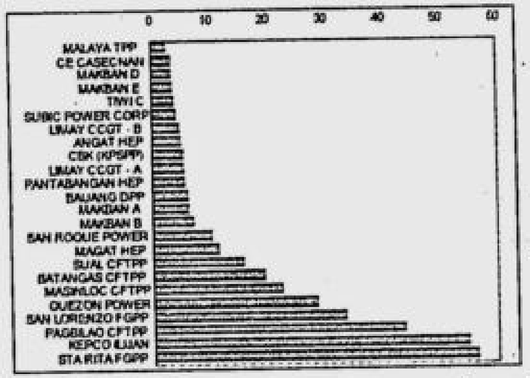


Figure 4

Another plant in the same situation was Pagbilao CFTPP. On the average, it was a top price setter during peak hours, and at the same time, a usual pivotal supplier throughout the year.

HERFINDAHL-HIRSCHMAN INDEX (HHI) ANALYSIS

HHI measures the degree of concentration in the market. It is generally considered that HHI above 1800 indicates a high degree of concentration.

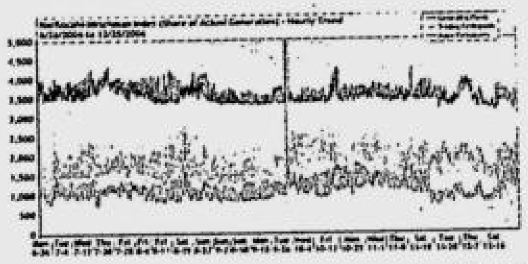


Figure 5

Thus, the 2,500 HHI of the market indicates a very high level of market concentration, particularly because 1,000HHI is indicative of a market that is not concentrated. During the first year of the WESM operation, major players in the market were the National Power Corporation, the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp and the Meralco IPPs.

TIMELINES

June 2001 - **EPIRA (RA 9136)**
President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed the EPIRA (Republic Act 9136) into law on 8 June 2001.

December 2001 - **Grid Code**
The Energy Regulatory Commission adopted the Philippine Grid Code and the Philippine Distribution Code in its Resolution No. 115.

February 2002 - **EPIRA – IRR**
Former Energy Secretary Vicente S. Perez, Jr. declared the effectivity of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the EPIRA on 27 February 2002, as approved by the Joint Congressional Power Commission.

June 2002 - **WESM Rules**
By virtue of Department Circular No. 2002-06-003 of the Department of Energy, the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market Rules was promulgated on 28 June 2002.

November 2003 - **PEMC Established**
The Philippine Electricity Market Corporation was incorporated as a non-stock, non-profit corporation registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on 18 November 2003.

April 2005 - **Commencement of Top Luzon**
In April 2005, the Trial Operations Program for Luzon began in anticipation of the commencement of the WESM and was completed in December of the same year.

October 2005 - **Commencement of Top Visayas**
In the Visayas, the Trial Operations Program began
in October 2005 and is currently on-going to prepare the region for their integration into the WESM operations in Luzon.

June 2006 - **MMS Project Completion**
The Market Management System (MMS), the mechanism behind the WESM operations, was completed in December 2005.

June 2006 - **Luzon Live Dispatch Operation**
The Live Dispatch Operation for Luzon was conducted from 19-25 June 2006 as a final dry run before the start of the WESM operation.

PDM Application Approval
Application for the approval of the Price Determination Methodology of the WESM was filed with the Energy Regulatory Commission on 22 February 2006 and was approved on 20 June 2006.

Market Fees and Administered Price Approval
The application for the WESM Market Fees and the Administered Price Determination Methodology was filed with the Energy Regulatory Commission on 14 November and 19 December 2005, respectively. Both were approved on 22 June 2006.

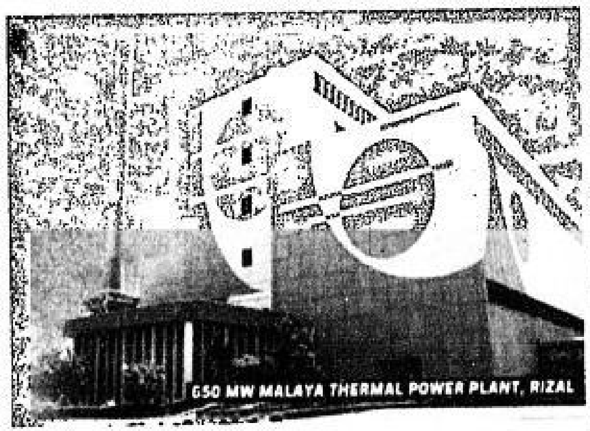
WESM Launch
Upon approval of the Price Determination Methodology, former Energy Secretary Raphael P.M. Lotilla declared the start of the WESM commercial operations in Luzon on 23 June 2006.

Commercial Operations
Commercial operations of the WESM officially began on 26 June 2006.

January 2007 - **Reserve Market Application**
PEMC filed an application to the Energy Regulatory Commission to operate the reserve market on 8 January 2007

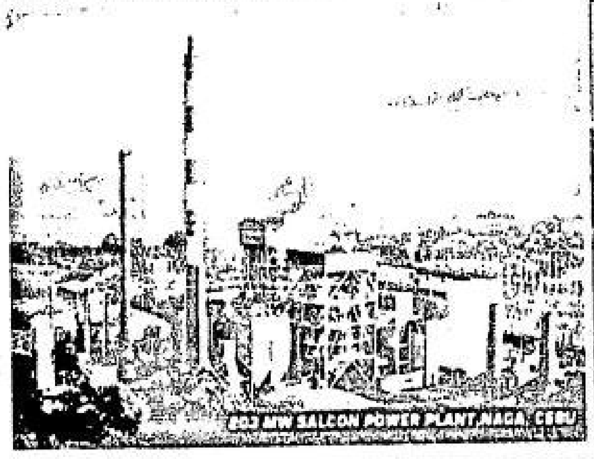
Wholesale Electricity Spot Market 1st Anniversary

Energizing Lives,
Powering Communities

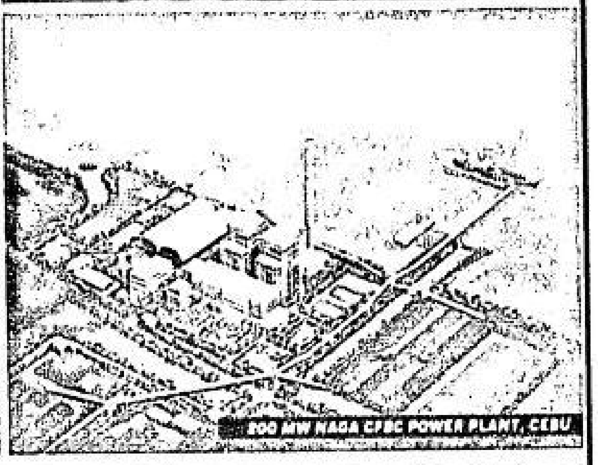


650 MW MALAYA THERMAL POWER PLANT, RIZAL

1200 MW ILIJAN COMBINED CYCLE NATURAL GASPOWER PLANT, BATANGAS



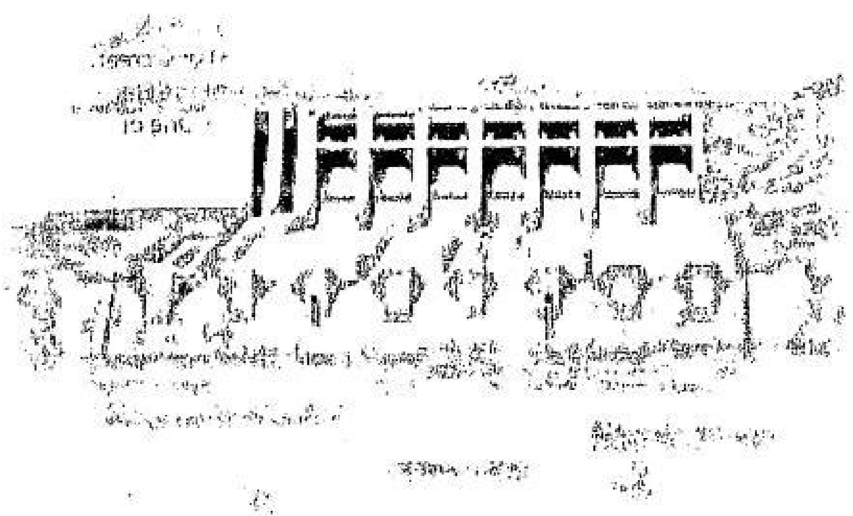
203 MW SALCON POWER PLANT,NAGA, CEBU



200 MW NAGA CFBC POWER PLANT, CEBU

ICEPCO PHILIPPINES

18TH Floor, Citibank Tower, 8741 Paseo De Roxas Makati City 1227, Philippines
Telephone Numbers 63-2-848-0231 to 35, 37 to 39 fax 63-2-848-0014

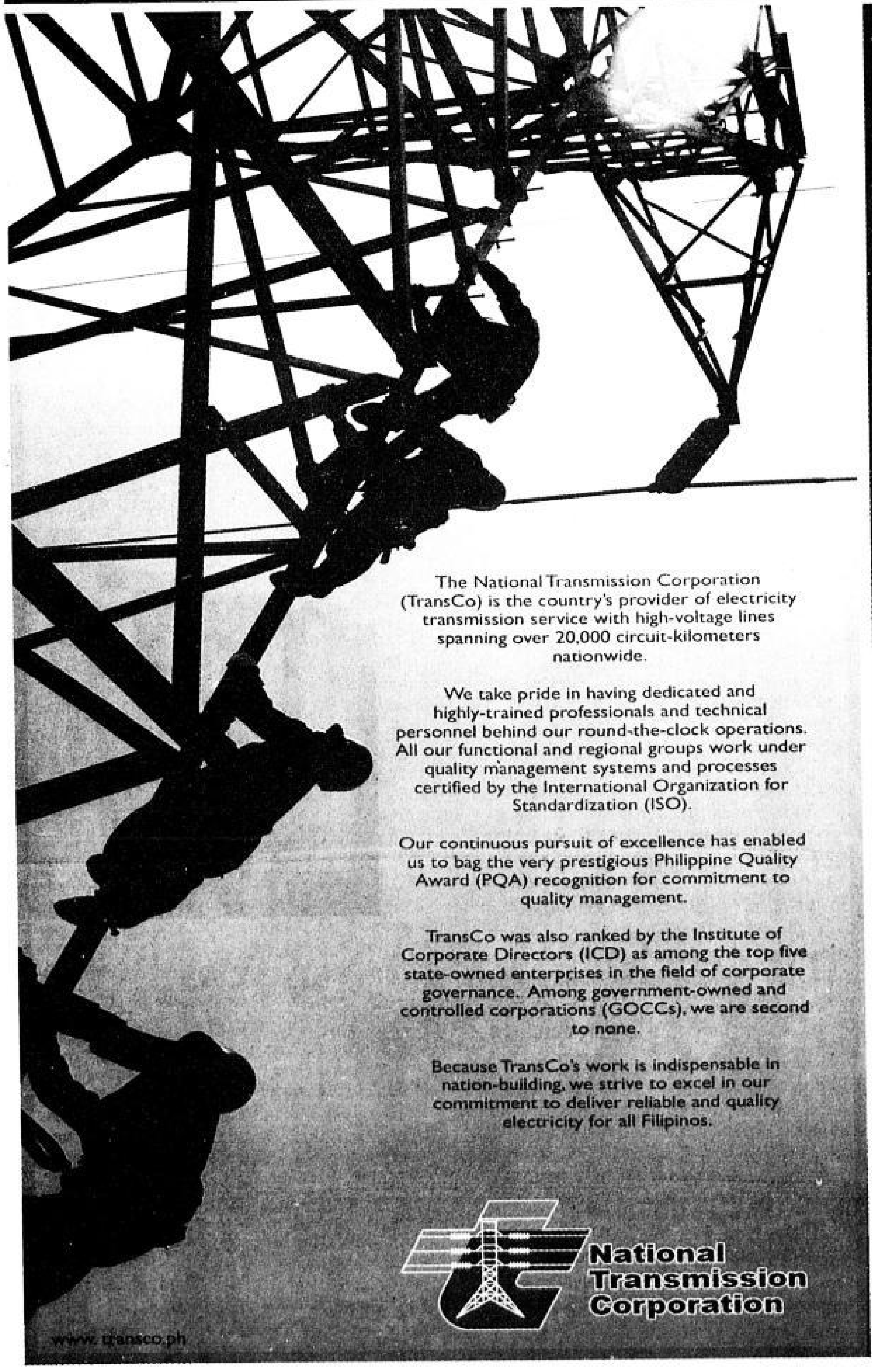


SN Aboitiz Power congratulates WESM on its 1st anniversary

Together with Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM), SN Aboitiz Power (SNAP) is committed to bringing clean, affordable and renewable energy to the Filipino.

SN Aboitiz Power is a joint venture of Aboitiz Power Corporation and SN Power of Norway. The company operates a hydroelectric power plant in the Ifugao and Isabela provinces, harnessing 360-megawatts of power which is distributed throughout Luzon.

SN | ABOITIZ
POWER INCORPORATED



The National Transmission Corporation (TransCo) is the country's provider of electricity transmission service with high-voltage lines spanning over 20,000 circuit-kilometers nationwide.

We take pride in having dedicated and highly-trained professionals and technical personnel behind our round-the-clock operations. All our functional and regional groups work under quality management systems and processes certified by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

Our continuous pursuit of excellence has enabled us to bag the very prestigious Philippine Quality Award (PQA) recognition for commitment to quality management.

TransCo was also ranked by the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD) as among the top five state-owned enterprises in the field of corporate governance. Among government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), we are second to none.

Because TransCo's work is indispensable in nation-building, we strive to excel in our commitment to deliver reliable and quality electricity for all Filipinos.

National
Transmission
Corporation

www.transco.ph

Wholesale Electricity Spot Market

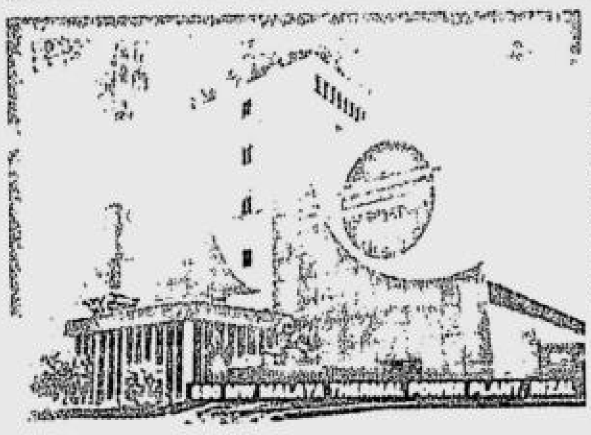
Pricing Electricity to Empower Consumers

Congratulations
on your 1st anniversary

PSALM
Power Sector
Assets and Liabilities
Management Corporation

Wholesale Electricity Spot Market 1st Anniversary

Energizing Lives, Powering Communities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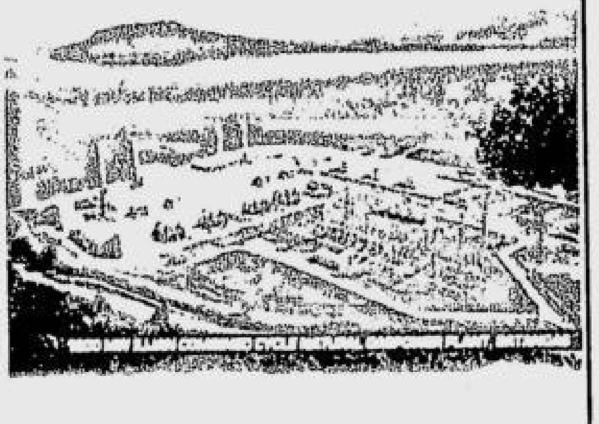
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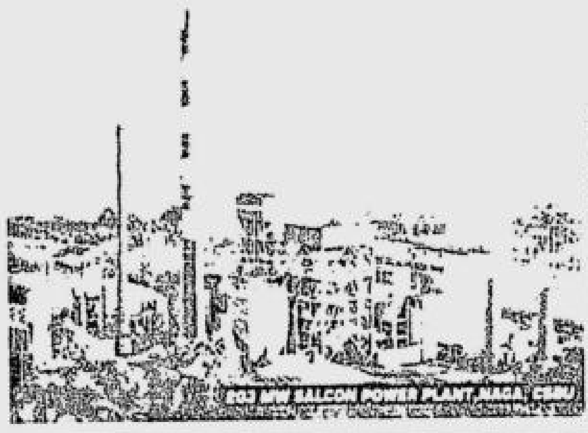
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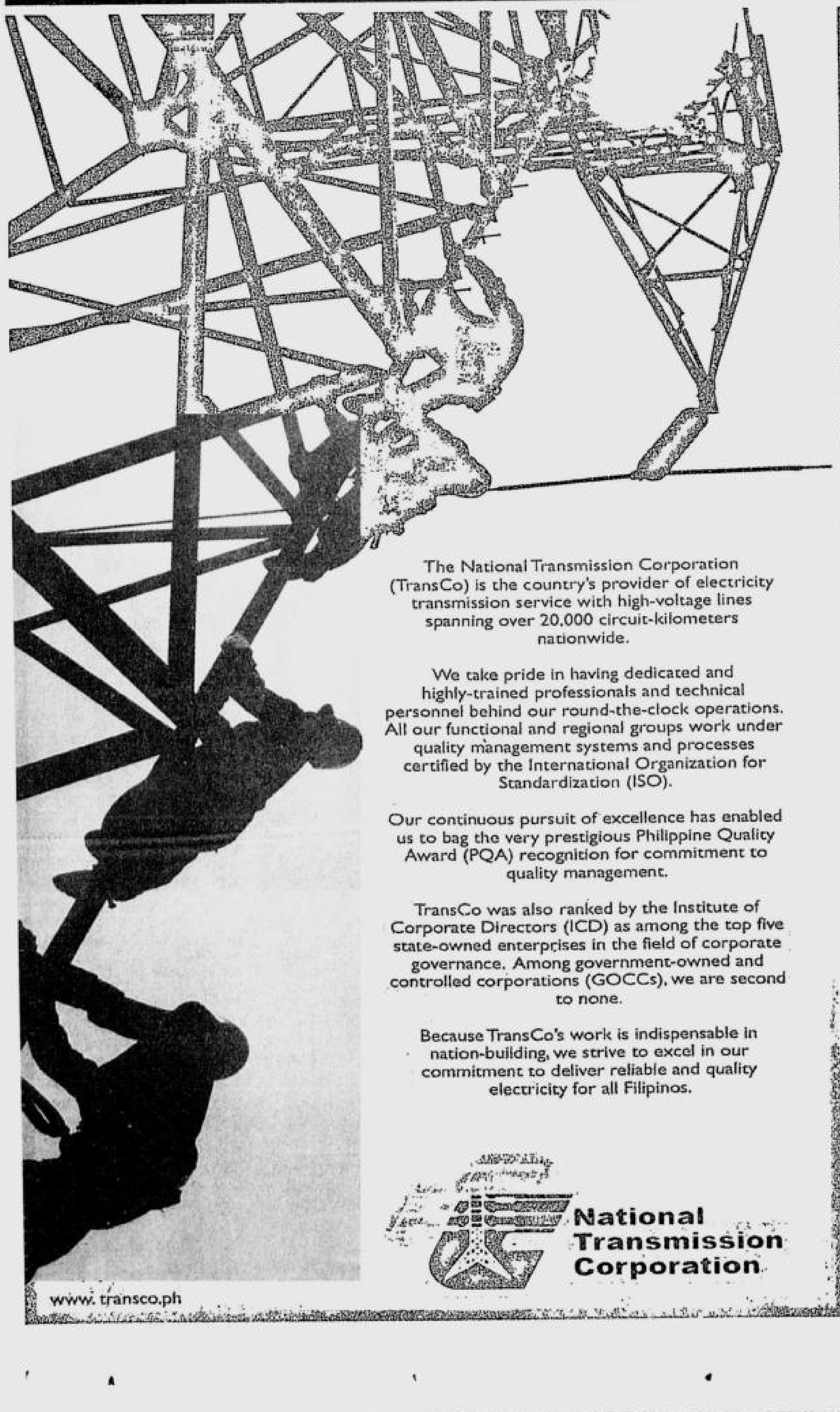
SN ABOITIZ



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National Transmission Corporation

www.transco.ph

Wholesale Electricity Spot Market

Pricing Electricity to EMpower Consumers

Congratulations

on your 1st anniversary

PSALM Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation

Kadayawan Festival at SM City Davao

SM CITY DAVAO CELEBRATES THE city's beauty and bounty, its rich cultural heritage and modern vibe in a series of activities highlighting the annual Kadayawan Festival.

Kadayawan has traditionally been a time of thanksgiving for the gifts of nature, the wealth of culture, the bounties of harvest, and the serenity of living. It also showcases Davao's rich artistic, cultural, and historical heritage.

The Kadayawan Festival was institutionalized in 1986 to unite Dabawenyos after the turbulent Martial Law years. It was then called Apo Duwaling, a name which brings together the city's two icons-the stately Mt. Apo and the exotic Waling Waling orchid. Two years later, it was renamed Kadayawan sa Dabaw to better reflect the merry spirit and the indigenous theme of the celebration.

With the passing of the years, Kadayawan has metamorphosed into a festival of festivals in the regions as it honors Davao's artistic, cultural, and historical heritage. It celebrates the lumads, its indigenous people, as well as the thriving flora industry the city has long been known for.

Not to be missed is the Agro Trade Fair ongoing until Aug. 23. This Mindanao Trade Fair will be highlighted by a floricultural exhibit, as well as competitive displays of rare and exotic flora found in the gardens of the Philippines. Farmers, plant growers, handicraft producers, and manufacturers will participate in this fair showcasing Davao's abundant flora. Fruits and vegetables will also be sold during this event at the SM City Davao grounds from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Bagong Ga-ma, a live performance of a leading Davao based band, will take place on Aug. 17 at 4 p.m. at the Entertainment Plaza. Moda Mindanao, a fashion show featuring top Davao-based designers using indigenous materials and designs will follow at 8 p.m.

Other homegrown talents not to be missed include Popong Landero in Huni Kalibutan, a world music concert; followed by a drum beating performance by Grupo Tibale, both on Aug 18 at the Entertainment Plaza. The following day, Tocada Mindanao will have a drum and percussion showdown on Aug 19, also at the Entertainment Plaza.

Kadayawan fever reaches a new high in the Globe Touch Mobile Battle of the Bands featuring local bands ongoing until Aug. 19 at SM City Davao's parking area beginning 4 p.m. Globe will also be holding a flair tending and bar tending competition in cooperation with Antonio's Bar and Grill, the grand finals of which will be held on Aug 17.

Not to be outdone are concerts of popular Manila-based groups like Parokya ni Edgar on Aug. 18 and 6Cycle Mind on Aug. 19. Both will take place at the open parking of SM City Davao at 8 p.m.

It will be the Kadayawan Night Run for Fun on Aug. 17 as thousands join in a fun run celebrating health and nighttime safety in Davao.

Capping the festivities is Sadsad Tugtug, a Kadayawan Street Dancing and Drums Parade on Aug. 19 at the SM City Davao walk and parking areas at 4 p.m.; and the Grand Finals of the Globe Touch Mobile Battle of the Bands at 7 p.m. at the open parking C area.

KADAYAWAN Festival dancers in their attractive, colorful costume and 'walis tambo' headdress

Bluewater Day Spa sponsors Ballet Manila for 2007-2008

BLUEWATER DAY SPA, WITH BRANCHES IN MAKATI, Greenhills, Alabang and Mother Ignacia, Quezon City will participate as a major sponsor of Liza Macuja's Ballet Manila 2007-2008 season. Catch Bluewater Day Spa's booth on the following performances: "Sayaw Pinoy at Iba Pa…Ballet Manila in Concert" on Aug. 24 to 26, Aug. 31 and Sep. 1 and 2; "Swan Lake" from Sep. 28 to 30, Oct. 5 to 7; "Pinocchio" from Dec. 7 to 9, 14 to 16, all performances to be held in Aliw Theater. Bluewater Day Spa has branches in Makati, Alabang, Greenhills and Mother Ignacia.

FAMOUS FLAME-GRILLED BURGER GROWING

On its 8th anniversary, Brothers Burger opened its newest branch on Bonifacio High Street Branch, Global City. Daniel K. Jose Jr, Brothers Burger VP - admin and finance and Quito K. Jose, VP-operations graced the Brothers Burger's Hamburger Day.

SBC partners with Mecadec to provide nationwide ATM network

SECURITY BANK CORP (SBC) RECENTLY signed a partnership agreement with savings and investment cooperative Magsaysay Employees Crew and Alottees Development Cooperative (Mecadec) to provide secure, efficient and convenient banking services through the CashLink Plus ATM Card to their members composed of seafarers.

Members and their beneficiaries will have access to Security Bank's wide network of branches nationwide where they can conveniently avail of cash dividends, interest payments and loan proceeds as benefits from the fund that they put into the cooperative.

Security Bank is one of the country's fastest-growing private owned domestic commercial banks with 114 branches in key locations nationwide and the additional reach of Bancnet, Megalink and Expressnet affiliate member banks.

SHOWN is Marlon Roño, Mecadec chair (center) with SBC executives who played key roles in finalizing the details of the partnership agreement after the contract signing held at their head office in Magsaysay Building, in TM Kalaw, Ermita, Manila. From left are: Roman Leus, SBC vice president for money market, FX, derivatives sales division; Pearl C. San Diego, SBC assistant vice president; Roño, Herrera branch business manager; Jun S. Lagman, SBC first vice president and area business manager for Makati; and Noel Tuazon, SBC vice president and marketing head.

Ex-IBP president bats for Reyes

FORMER IBP PRESIDENT JOSE Vicente B. Salazar joined the outpouring of support for the appointment of Justice Ruben T. Reyes to the Supreme Court, saying the former presiding Appeals Justice brings with him a wealth of wisdom, and experience to the high bench.

"President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's appointment of Reyes is well placed as Reyes underwent the usual clinical scrutiny of the Judicial Bar Council (JBC) which is made up of known legal luminaries who took cognizance of the depth of knowledge and competence in the judiciary of Justice Reyes," Salazar said.

The only indispensable requirement for a seat in the SC is the approval of the JBC and Reyes was already nominated a total of six times. "It is a well-deserved and long-incoming appointment," Salazar added.

Salazar said the continued competence of Reyes in the field of law would definitely leave an indelible mark in the High Tribunal even if his stint will be short-lived as justices are supposed to retire at the age of 80.

Reyes is a career jurist. He has traveled the model judicial route with unblemished integrity as a private and corporate practitioner (10 years), medaled Assistant City Fiscal of Manila (9 years), outstanding RTC Judge of Bataan and Manila (10 years) and multi-awarded Appellate Justice (13 years).

Still in the pink of his health at age 68, Reyes has maintained low pending caseloads and zero balance as far as criminal cases are involved. This, according to Salazar, is the measure of productivity of Reyes.

Reyes studied law as a working student, scholar, law council president and law editor. A 1962 alumnus of MLQ University, he has taken eight summer courses in the United States, including the 1st Harvard Law School Workshop for Law Teachers and Scholars, Academy of American and International Law, Appellate Judges Seminar, California Judicial College and National Judicial College.

After a 10-year law practice, he was named Assistant Fiscal of Manila winning the 1981 Best Resolution Contest. He became RTC Judge first in Bataan, then in Manila, where he was Outstanding RTC Judge awardee and RTC Judges Association president. He edited the Philippine Judges Association Newsletter and Bench Bulletin.

He is president of Philippine Association of Law Professors, trustee and lecturer of Philippine Judicial Academy, 2002 Bar Examiner in Legal Ethics, author of Bar Reviewer on Special Penal Laws, MCLE lecturer on substantive and procedural law, legal writing, ethics and law reforms; co-chair, Supreme Court sub-committee on MCLE Draft Rules; member, SC committee on legal education and bar matters and resource person in criminal and remedial laws, UP Law Center.

Born in 1939 in Hagonoy, Bulacan, he is married to lawyer Ellie Cruz-Reyes of Baliuag. They have four children: Pastor Winston, Dr. Roselin, Jason Immanuel and lawyer Tammy Ann.

The fine points of Faber-Castell

FROM THE WORLD-RENOWNED maker of fine writing and art products Faber-Castell comes more practical writing innovations perfect for the new school year, or just about any time and any season.

The Faber-Castell 1423 ballpen carries waterproof ink on a roller ball, available in 0.5, 0.7 and 1.0 points, for stress-free writing. Its ergonomic grip prevents slipping and a ventilated cap allows for air to pass through to avoid ink build-up and moisture traps that could lead to poor ink performance.

The Dong-A My Gel Tec pen is equipped with finer needles tip technology perfect for discriminating users. For smoother writing, the pen uses gel ink, which is absorbed faster by paper. These pens are available in 0.3 and 0.4 mm points.

To perfectly highlight any written material, there is Faber-Castell's 1546 Textliner. The super fluorescent marking is applicable on all standard paper types, with durable special tip marks of 5mm, 2mm, and 1mm widths. Available in neon shades of green, yellow, red, purple, orange and pink, these textliners do not dry up easily, even when the cap is not replaced immediately after use.

Faber-Castell's 1423 ballpens, Dong-A My Gel Tec pens, 1546 Textliners and other quality writing and art products are available at all leading bookstores and art supply stores nationwide.

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THE ELECTROMEX UHP-500 water refilling station equipment produces 3,000 gallons of high-purity drinking water a day. The quality of water produced passes Department of Health standards. At a cost of just P150,000, this 4'x3'x6' transportable equipment comes complete with tanks, filters, pumps, carbon, ultraviolet germicidal lamp, and the industrial grade heavy-duty Ozone generator that kills germs and removes the lead, manganese and mercury 100 percent.

The Electromex UHP-500 is superior to the more expensive typical reverse osmosis system which wastes seven out of 10 gallons of water as backwash. The UHP-500 produces zero waste and costs only 30 centavos per gallon, giving you return on investment in less than six months. The UHP-500 is fully assembled and there is no need to drill or cement-plug and play, idiot-proof, worry-free and low-maintenance. It's the same system used in Europe, Japan, and the United States.

For more inquiries, call 531-6782 or 535-9069, or log on to www.electromexinc.com.

RP hosts 7th hospice palliative care conference in September

THIS YEAR, THE PHILIPPINES HOSTS THE 7TH Asia-Pacific Hospice Palliative Care conference from Sep. 27 to 29 at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza. This biennial conference will gather the experts in the region who will share their knowledge and experience. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo will be the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony. It would be an opportunity for the public to learn, share and network with the people and movers of hospice.

In 1989 hospice care was introduced in the Philippines when it was integrated into the Family Health Care Program of the Department of Family Medicine of the Philippine General Hospital. The prime mover then was Dr. Catherine Lisondra-Krings. The training program was, however, limited to medical students and Family Medicine residents.

Then the Philippine Cancer Society (PCS) began the first Home Care Hospice service in 1991. The hospice team, composed of a doctor, a nurse, a social worker and a volunteer, would visit the patients in their homes and teach the family how to take care of their loved one. Over the next 12 years, the PCS hospice team served over a thousand patients and their families. In 1994, PCS initiated a series of training and education workshops nationwide with the help of Dr. Josefina B. Magno, a Filipino pioneer in hospice work in the United States.

The First National Convention on Hospice Palliative Care was held in January 1995, during the National Cancer Consciousness week. At the same time, the Department of Health and PCS released the first manual for caregivers, in English and Filipino.

The hospice movement quickly spread all over the country. Hospital-based hospice programs were started at the Makati Medical Center and Philippine Children's Medical Center in 1994, and at the University of Santo Tomas in 1997. A community-based hospice was likewise formed, the Madre De Amor Foundation in Laguna, and the church-based Ayala Alabang Hospice in Muntinlupa, in 1994. The Kythe Foundation (1995), a volunteer group started by psychologists from the Ateneo de Manila University, Icar Castro and Girlie Garcia, provided a child life program for children with cancer. Its program is now institutionalized in 9 hospitals nationwide.

In Iloilo, two hospital-based hospices were established: the Iloilo Mission Hospital Pain and Palliative Care Clinic under Dr. Celina Vilches (1997) and the Hospice Home Care Program at the Western Visayas Medical Center with Dr. Annabelle Guzman (1998). Cebu City also had hospice initiatives under the auspices of Drs. Betty Pasco, Dennis Tudtud, Betty Talaver and Jayson Villegas and Sister Mary Lucilla Perpiñan.

Hospice training and education has also evolved through the creation of the first post graduate residency and fellowship program in supportive, palliative and hospice care at the University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital in 2000.

For more information about the conference, log on to www.aphc2007.com or e-mail secretariat@aphc2007.com, or call 733-3485.

Automobile Association of the Philippines

The National Auto Club

car financing 101

So you're thinking of buying a brand new car? There are two ways to do it – save up or get a loan. Both have their own rewards

Rey Santos, an ordinary employee in Makati, has been dreaming of buying a car of his own. But he could not do so due to lack of funds. Last summer, he finally found the courage to take the leap—he availed of a promo from one of the major banks and got a loan for a new Chevrolet Optra.

Rey is still grinning to this day whenever he gets into his car. He knows he made the right decision.

Rey is just one of the thousands of Filipinos who have discovered how easy it is to get financing for a new car.

The Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc (Campi) says seven of 10 cars in the Philippines are bought through some sort of financing assistance including in-house from dealers or car manufacturers and auto loans from banks.

That's at least 70,000 cars out of every year's 100,000 plus vehicles sold in the country. No wonder banks are coming up with promos almost every quarter.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has acknowledged car financing's growth. In its announcement last June, the BSP revealed that auto loans have risen to P74.1 billion from P52.3 billion a year ago.

What's fueling the growth?

Car financing is rising because of two things: more new vehicle models are being introduced and competition among banks is increasing.

Metrobank, the leader in auto loans, is riding on a series of new vehicle launches by sister company Toyota Motor Philippines. Because of Toyota's slew of new models—from the Fortuner, Hilux, Innova and the Vios which was launched only this month—Metrobank continues to have the highest auto loan portfolio in the industry this year.

And Metrobank is also very aggressive in promoting its car financing products. Last summer, it even introduced a financing program aimed at new graduates wanting to have their first car. Today until September it is offering one of the lowest interest rates in the industry plus many more freebies through a "Metrocar Great Rates Sale."

Just like other banks, Metrobank considers auto loans as a magnet for customers, hence it is also pushing it through its sub-

CAR/B3-2

Auto loan lingo

MSRP? DEALER INVOICE? Chattel fees?

Car dealers often use complicated jargon while selling you a car. Take control of the auto buying process by reviewing these common terms and their definitions before you visit the dealership.

Add-Ons–Also known as "options," these are added onto a car usually by the dealer. Common add-ons include undercoating, higher-model CD stereo, alarm system, window tinting, floor mats, fog lamps or even an umbrella. These features are often overpriced and are used as a way to increase the sale price of the car.

Annual percentage rate (APR) – the interest rate charged on a loan, expressed as a yearly rate.

Asking price – The amount a dealer or seller has posted as the price of the vehicle.

Base price – The cost of a vehicle before a dealer adds on options. This price includes the standard equipment and the manufacturer's warranty.

Chattel fee - A set of fees charged by a dealer for the costs of a loan application. This includes the costs of documentary stamps, taxes and document processing.

Dealer holdback – An allowance given to a dealer by the car manufacturer. This amount usually equals 2 to 3 percent of the car's Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) and is used so that a dealer can make a profit even if the car is sold below invoice price.

Dealer incentives – Special programs offered by manufacturers—and banks—to help dealers sell cars or reduce inventory. These savings are sometimes passed on to buyers.

Dealer invoice – The amount a manufacturer charges a dealer for a car, delivery and add-on features. This can be the amount the dealership pays for the vehicle, but the dealer often reduces its cost with rebates, holdbacks and other incentives.

Dealer sticker price – The price of a car posted on the window as required by law. This summary includes the base price, standard features, add-ons with their retail prices, fuel economy, delivery charges and the MSRP.

Extended warranty – A special warranty covering specific services and repairs beyond the basic warranty on a vehicle. These warranties are also known as "service contracts."

Finance rate – The annual percentage rate (APR) charged for an auto loan.

MSRP – Acronym for Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. This amount includes the price of the vehicle and add-ons.

Repossession – When a loan is significantly overdue, a lender can claim ownership of the financed vehicle.

Trade-in value – The amount a dealer will pay you for an old car when you purchase a new vehicle through its dealership. This amount is usually lower than the wholesale value of the car.

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car financing 101

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sidiary, PS Bank.

The Ayala-owned Bank of the Philippine Islands, on the other hand, and the Yuchengco-owned Rizal Commercial Banking Corp are riding on developments at Honda Cars Philippines. The Ayalas and the Yuchengcos have their own set of Honda dealerships and promos of their banks are usually tied up with new model launches from Honda.

Easiest loan to avail

Car financing is the easiest loan to get.

Felimon "Jojoy" de las Alas, head of Allied Bank's consumer loans department, said it is easier to get a car loan than a personal loan because of the ready collateral—the new car.

Try calling a bank today or, better yet, try visiting their websites and you'll see that the only requirements for getting an auto loan are a valid ID, employment certificate or pay slips and an income tax return. Anybody earning P30,000 a month can avail of a car loan.

Most banks would require a 20-percent down payment for a loan payable in 12 to 60 months. De las Alas said some banks allow down payment of as low as 10 percent and repayment period that is stretched to 72 months.

"It depends really on how close you are to your bank. If you are a regular depositor, you can negotiate a deal," he said.

He noted that banks in general are conservative and avoid any kind of risks.

"At present, bad loans comprise only 5 to 6 percent of the entire industry, which is very good for a country like ours," he said. "But of course, no bank would want a bad loan. No bank would want to repossess a vehicle."

Beginning of a bad loan

Bad loans start from the borrower's failure to assess his or her paying capacity.

According to De las Alas, the biggest mistake a car buyer can make is to take out a loan based on his expected earnings and not on his present capability.

"Many car buyers are driven by emotion and they tend to be irrational when they are already in front of their dream car. They convince themselves that since they can afford the 10-percent down payment now, they can also afford to pay the high monthly fees because their expected earnings would go up over the years. The problem is when the expected earnings do not materialize," he said.

De las Alas noted that some car buyers also tend to be too eager to be the first to have a certain car model.

He recalled that when the Toyota Fortuner was launched, buyers immediately began lining up at showrooms, ready to drive the first Fortuner that showed up.

"*Maraming* car buyers *ay gigil sa bagong kotse*. They want to buy and they want to buy now—even if they don't have the money," he said.

And car salesmen know this. They would not admit it but one salesman interviewed for this story said there is an unwritten rule among them to never allow a customer who has walked into their showroom to leave without at least test-driving one of their newest models.

"If we succeed in pushing for a test drive, there's already that big chance to close the sale," the salesman said.

No real freebies

There is truly no free lunch. If a car dealer offers a free item, say a stereo upgrade or set of fog lamps, beware. He is sure to get more in return.

Our car salesman friend said so-called "dealer incentives" from car manufacturers, banks and insurance companies are given to dealers to assist them in convincing customers.

These incentives come in the form of commissions, rebates or free items. In most cases, the dealer uses one incentive to lure a buyer to avail of an add-on or buy something such as insurance.

Our car salesman friend said even umbrellas are no longer given for free.

"*Kapag hindi ka kumuha ng* insurance *sa* dealer, *wala kang* free umbrella. *Yung mga* add-ons *naman gaya ng* fog lamps *binibigay lang* for certain deals. *Kapag hindi ka pumayag dun sa* deal, *wala kang* fog lamps. Normally, you can get the fog lamps or any accessory for that matter, at a cheaper price when you go to Banawe," the salesman said.

Even the rich avail of loans

It may come as a surprise, but did you know that even those who could readily afford to buy cars in cash avail of auto loans?

One bank executive we interviewed said he knew of a rich woman who took out a loan because she wanted to surprise her husband with a brand-new car.

"*Huwag ko raw sasabihin kasi magpi*-50th birthday *yung* mister *niya at gusto niyang regaluhan ng kotse*," the executive related as he recalled his client's instructions.

The executive added that another client of his wanted to buy a luxury car but did not want the Bureau of Internal Revenue to get suspicious about his tax payments. So the client took out a loan for the expensive purchase.

Getting the best deal

But how do you get the best auto loan? Those we interviewed have some advice.

First, buy the previous model. Getting a brand-new car doesn't always mean buying the latest, most recently launched model. A car salesman said buyers can get a big discount—as high as P50,000—if they go for the previous model.

"Dealers give big discounts on old models just to dispose of them and free their space for the new models. If you're not really after the latest model, then you can get a great deal if you buy the previous model," the salesman said.

The second advice, this time from a banker, is to save up for the biggest down payment you can afford and get the shortest loan your present financial capacity will allow you.

A banker we interviewed said that even though he wanted to encourage people to get five- or seven-year auto loans, he wouldn't do so himself.

"A car is a highly depreciable item. Unlike a house and lot, a car loses 20 percent of its value the moment it leaves the showroom. And getting a long-term loan for a car is not prudent because it is like losing money both ways—through interest payments and through the depreciation cost," he pointed out.

The third advice is to get the car's insurance not in the bank or the dealer.

"The insurance our company sells is always more expensive," the banker said. "It's best to get it from independent insurance companies."

The last advice is actually related to the second. Since cars are considered the fastest depreciating high-ticket item you could buy, financial experts say the best way to acquire them is to buy them used—after five years, when the car's depreciation rate is no longer as sharp—and to pay in cash.

Joy Robles is an example of one who wants to squeeze every peso from her money. She has been saving for a new Honda CR-V since last year, wanting to come up with a 50-percent down payment and get a one-year loan this year.

When she finally managed to save more than half a million bucks, she realized she did not want a brand-new CR-V anymore. She instead bought a second-hand, low-mileage CR-V from a friend.

"I don't have anything against car loans but I realized that I'm not really used to having too much debt to pay. *Hindi pala ako sanay na may utang*," she said.

> A car is a highly depreciable item. Unlike a house and lot, a car loses 20 percent of its value the moment it leaves the showroom. And getting a long-term loan for a car is not prudent because it is like losing money both ways - through interest payments and through the depreciation cost

Before you get an auto loan

Manage your credit

One of the first things you should do before applying for an auto loan is to review your credit. If you are already heavily in debt—from your credit cards, housing loan, appliance loan, salary loan, etc.— getting a car would not be advisable.

Know how much you can really spend

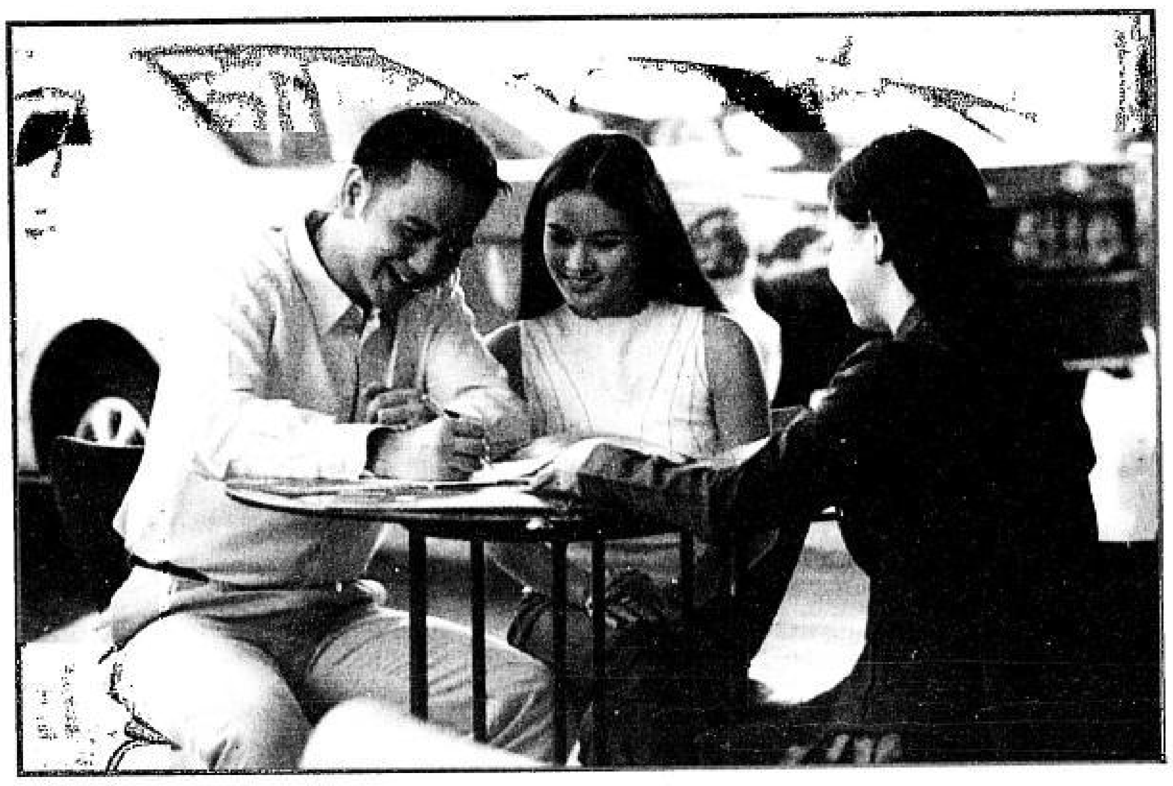
Diligent budgeters already know this. Track your budget any way you like and then find out how much you have to pay with the car payment calculator.

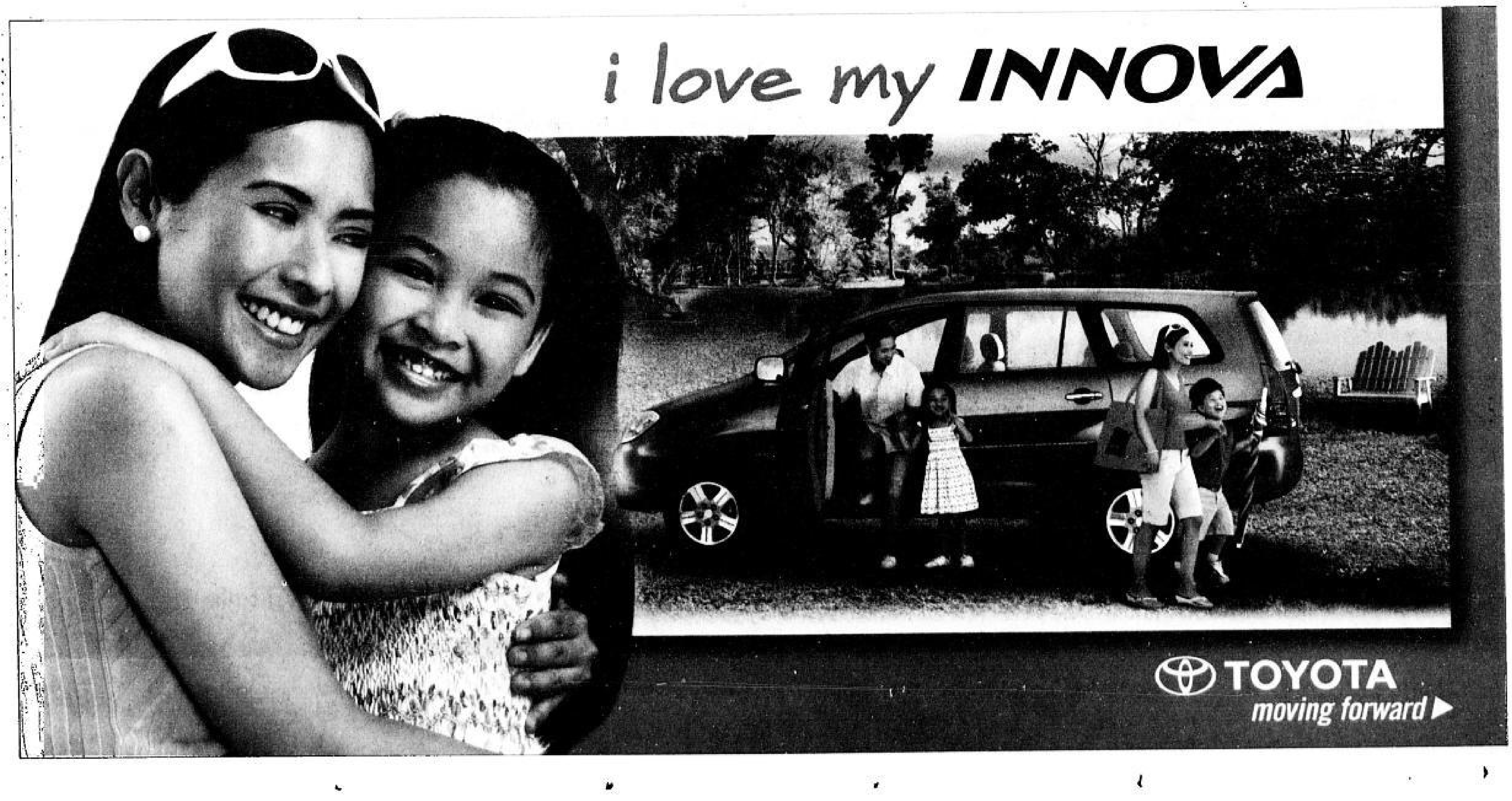
Look at the big picture

The terms of your auto loan will determine how much you pay now and how much the auto loan costs over-all. Remember: a low cost now may not mean low total costs for you in the big picture. For example, most borrowers choose a low down payment because it's easy to manage today. However, that choice increases the total cost of the auto loan and usually leaves you "upside-down" (meaning you owe more on the vehicle than it's worth) for years to come.

Shop around

This is simple but often overlooked. The most important point is you don't have to get your loan from the dealer. Check with the banks first. By consulting with an alternative lender before stepping into the dealer's showroom, you'll be armed with knowledge with what's fair—and you may have some bargaining power.





The National Auto Club

AAP fields new 'Big Brother 2' tow truck on the NLEX

AAP RECENTLY RAISED THE STANDARD of its emergency roadside service (ERS) at the North Luzon Expressway by fielding a mega-tonner Isuzu FTR tow truck acquired from Gencars Inc Isuzu Makati.

Aptly dubbed "Big Brother 2," the new tow truck is capable of towing passenger buses, multi-wheeler trucks and heavy tonnage vehicles. As with all its other tow trucks on the NLEX, AAP will equip Big Brother 2 with the latest Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking device that enables the AAP NLEX station in Pulilan, Bulacan to determine quickly which tow truck is nearest a disabled motor vehicle when an emergency call is received.

AAP has been the exclusive ERS provider at the NLEX since 2005, when it signed a contract with the Tollways Management Corp.

'BIG BROTHER 2' TURNED OVER TO AAP
A blessing and turnover ceremony was held recently at the AAP compound in Pulilan, Bulacan for the Isuzu FTR, the newest addition to AAP's fleet of tow trucks servicing the North Luzon Expressway. AAP president Gus Lagman (2nd from left) accepts the ceremonial key from Rey Moreno, truck and bus division head of Gencars Inc Isuzu Makati, in the presence of (from left) Tollways Management Corp EVP Nathaniel Fernandez, Arnold Metrillo, special accounts officer of Gencars, Fr. Angel of the Calumpit Parish Church, AAP vice president Johnny Angeles and AAP assistant manager for NLEX emergency roadside service Philip Leopando.

UP okays AAP's road safety plan

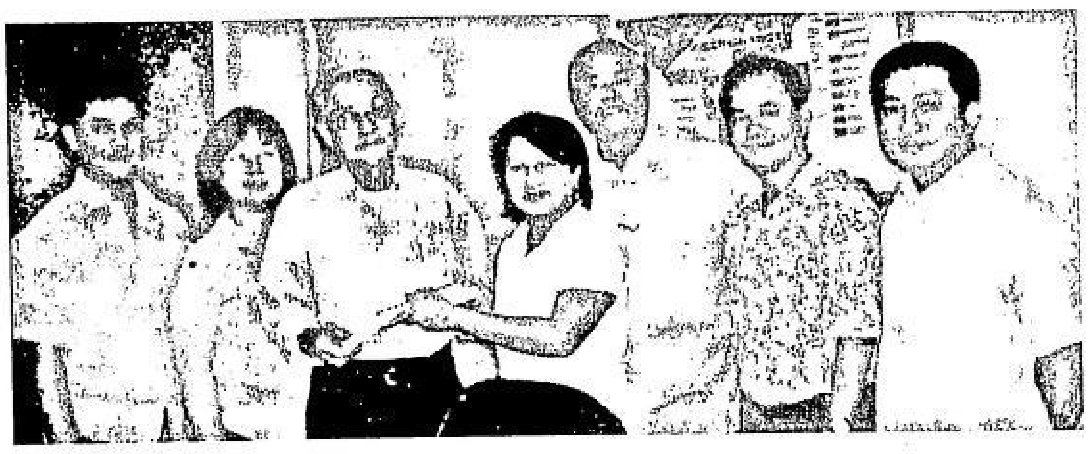
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE Philippines recently approved AAP's proposal to turn UP's campus in Diliman, Quezon City into the country's first road safety campus.

AAP vice president Johnny Angeles said UP vice chancellor for community affairs Cynthia Grace Gregorio sent the association a letter expressing approval of the proposal. "Vice chancellor Gregorio informed us that we can now start installing traffic signs and reflectorized pavement markings at UP Diliman campus. She even provided us with a blueprint for our reference," Angeles said.

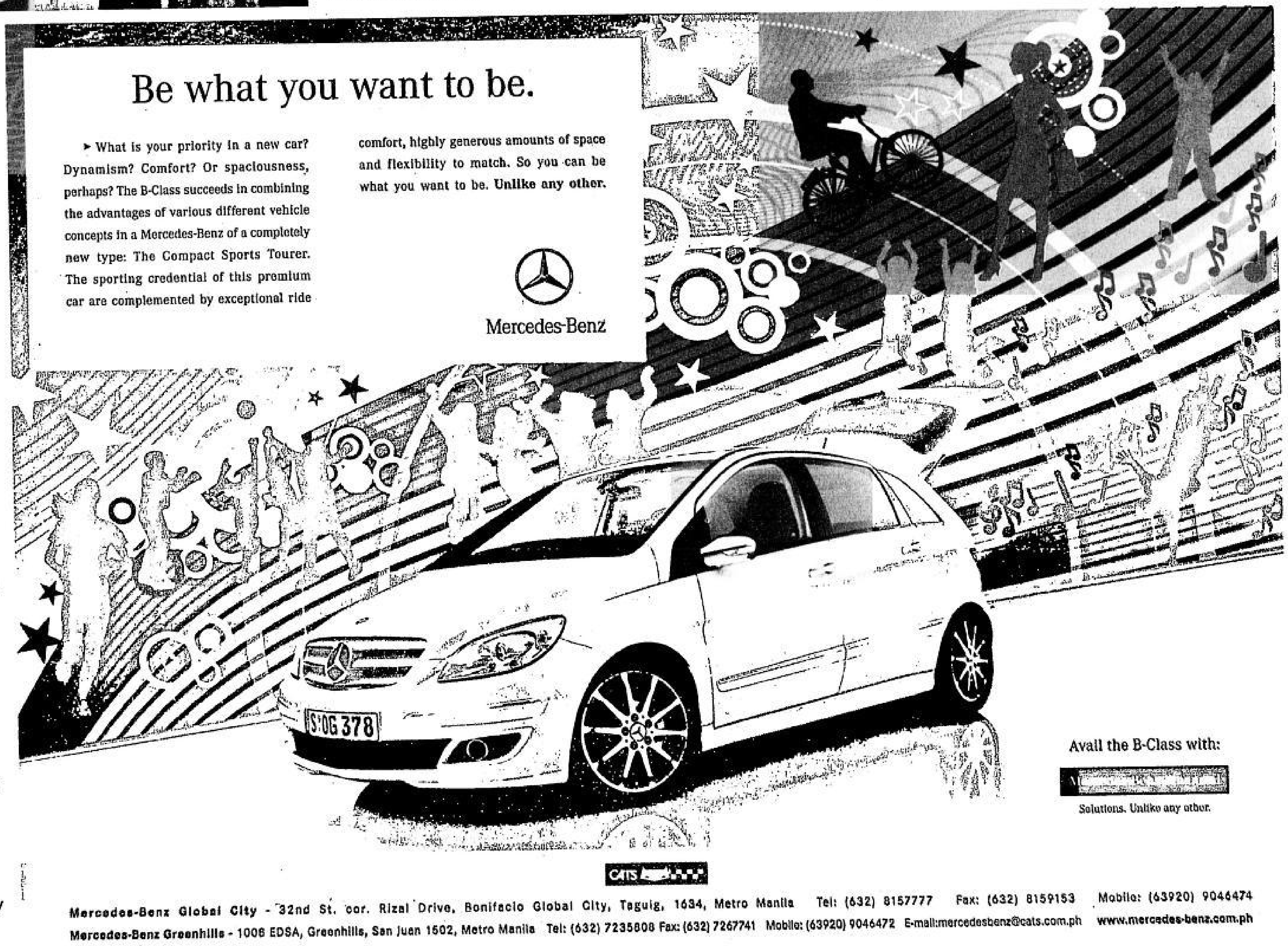
The AAP road safety project is supported by the UP National Center for Transportation Studies, Toyota Motor Philippines and 3M Philippines. UP NCTS conducted a study on how to improve traffic conditions within the campus while Toyota is donating funds for the project. 3M, meanwhile, is providing the reflectorized materials for road signs and lane markings.

UP NCTS assessed traffic conditions on campus and designed a smoother, safer, and more environment-friendly flow of motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians. It also came up with new traffic management measures to reduce traffic congestion.

The project will be carried out in three phases: Phase I involves the upgrading of traffic signs and introduction of pedestrian and bike lanes. Phase II covers the adjustment of peripheral roads while Phase III will ban motor vehicles from the UP Oval, making it a car-free area for the exclusive use of pedestrians and bicyclists.



AAP-UP ROAD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
University of the Philippines vice chancellor Dr. Cynthia Gregorio (4th from left) hands over to AAP vice president Johnny Angeles the blueprint for AAP's reference in the plan to turn UP Diliman into the country's first road safety campus. Others in photo are (from left) engineers Rey Luna and Aileen Mappala, AAP director and road safety committee chair Serafin Pantaleon, UP professor Dr. Ric Sigua and Rowan Rellosa of 3M Philippines.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The National Auto Club

Fire extinguisher a must for sports cars

OWNERS OF SPORTS CARS should invest in a fire extinguisher to prevent their multi-million rides from going up in smoke.

This is the advice of AAP to sports car enthusiasts after a P20-million Ferrari F430 was consumed by fire at the South Luzon Expressway almost a month ago.

The red Ferrari, reportedly owned by a businessman from Quezon City, was cruising along the SLEX with seven other sports cars when its rear engine suddenly caught fire.

The owner reportedly noticed the fire and immediately stopped on the expressway's shoulder. But he could not put out the flames because he did not have a fire extinguisher on board.

Posts on Internet sites supposedly from a companion of the Ferrari's owner indicated that they tried stopping passing vehicles but no one had a fire extinguisher either. Firemen arrived later to prevent the blaze from totally razing the Ferrari.

Sources who know the car's owner said the vehicle was brought into the country through Hong She, Ferrari's official distributor in Singapore and the Southeast Asian region. Ferrari is reportedly bringing in a team to investigate.

The Ferrari F430 is suspected by some to have a factory defect in its electrical system.

> This is the advice of AAP to sports car enthusiasts after a P20 million Ferrari F430 was consumed by fire at the South Luzon Expressway almost a month ago

Finally, an AAP car battery

AAP
Maintenance Free Battery
AAP
Maintenance Free Battery

AAP NOW HAS ITS OWN LINE OF CAR batteries, a dream come true for the Philippines' number one auto club.

For many years, AAP had been thinking of products to make available to its members—products that are regularly used and are truly needed by motorists. Finally, one such product is here.

Via a partnership with Outlast Battery, AAP has come up with its own AAP-brand car battery that promises not only big savings for members, but also the ever-important peace of mind that only AAP can guarantee.

The AAP battery is a lot cheaper than other brands and has a two-year warranty. AAP members can buy the battery when they renew their membership or they can call AAP for free delivery. Installation of the battery is also free of charge.

Good deal with Goodyear

ASIDE FROM BATTERIES, AAP HAS ALSO MADE A good deal with Goodyear Philippines. Early this year, the AAP board of directors signed a deal with Goodyear Philippines whereby AAP members can get big discounts on automobile tires (truck tires not included) from any of the hundreds of Goodyear Servitek outlets nationwide.

The discount varies from tire to tire, but they are so big for some models that one would really feel bad if he/she failed to avail of it.

AAP members who need new tires simply have to go to any Goodyear Servitek outlet and present their AAP membership card. Goodyear service technicians would be more than willing to assist them.

AAP members get higher insurance coverage now

STARTING THIS YEAR, ALL AAP MEMBERS WILL have a higher personal accident insurance of P300,000, up from P200,000, courtesy of AAP's new insurance partner, Federal Phoenix Assurance.

As a corporate partner of insurance firms, AAP hunts for the best deal for both comprehensive and third-party liability insurance for its members..

> The AAP battery is a lot cheaper than other brands and has a two-year warranty. AAP members can buy the battery when they renew their membership or they can call AAP for free delivery. Installation of the battery is also free of charge

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Remarks

MR. STEPHEN CARLISLE

President for GM Southeast Asia Operations
General Motors Automobiles Philippines
Philippines International Motor Show
Thursday, August 9, 2007

MA-BUU-HAI and good afternoon ladies and gentlemen.

It's a great pleasure to see you all here at the first Philippines International Motor Show.

Today, GM Philippines and Chevrolet is proud to showcase our various line-up of vehicles that deliver outstanding value through their unique combination of modern styling, class-leading levels of comfort, safety, quality, reliability and performance.

Without a doubt the Chevrolet brand is growing in the region. My predecessor, Bill Botwick, deserves much of the credit for putting Chevrolet on the map in the Philippines and the Southeast Asia. He not only launched the brand but built a strong foundation which is today contributing to our continued growth even during the difficult times.

Asean is a rapidly growing market, currently the 4th largest market in Asia Pacific after China, India, and Japan. The industry outlook for this region this year increased 0.4 percent to 1.7 million vehicles. The Philippines, with a growth of 17 percent year-to-date through June versus same period 2006, is a strong market for compact SUVs.

To compete in this market, today, let me introduce to you the new Chevrolet Captiva, which is being launched by GM globally. The Captiva began its journey as a concept conceived by GM designers and engineers from all corners of the globe. In a collaborative effort that involved 11 GM design centers around the world and 450 prototype vehicles, the Captiva was tested exhaustively over 5 million km in every terrain imaginable in order to ensure that the vehicle would live up to the same high standards that GM expects of every one of its products.

As the first truly global vehicle developed by GM, it was important that we got this right the first time. That's why we took the time to ensure that every detail met the highest standard we require of every vehicle we produce. I'm confident that the Captiva will not only exceed the expectation of Filipino customers, but also the expectations of customers in over 100 markets to where GM Thailand-manufactured products are exported to. The Chevrolet Captiva is GM Philippines' entry in the highly competitive compact SUV segment. And new models mean more choices, which can only be good for the Filipino consumers.

The Chevrolet Captiva boasts of its ability to adapt to customers as their needs progress over the course of a lifetime and was designed to match the lifestyle of today's active customer, whether they needed a daily commuter, a family hauler or a weekend getaway off-roader.

The Captiva is GM Philippine's 8th model to be offered in the local market under the Chevrolet badge. With the introduction of Captiva, Chevrolet now offers an impressive lineup with a model to suit all life stages. The variety of products provides us with more sales opportunities, and the quality and uniqueness of the Captiva, we believe will certainly ignite the market and whet the appetites of existing and potential customers.

The Chevrolet Captiva is equipped with advanced technology that balances the comfort of a sedan, the toughness of an SUV and the versatility of a truck. The Chevrolet Captiva, with a AWD and 2WD 2.4-litre gasoline engine and the 2.0-litre inter-cooled turbo diesel and with a choice of All-Wheel-Drive and 2-Wheel Drive variants, will be available soon in all of Chevrolet's 13 showrooms nationwide.

GM's ongoing commitment in the Philippines has allowed us to continue growing our business which now includes 13 authorized Chevrolet showrooms and service centers, with aggressive plans for further dealership expansion to widen our footprint across the country ... and now with the Captiva's introduction, we'll continue to capture valuable market share in this highly competitive field.

Now, together let's explore the new look of the Chevrolet Captiva!

THE CHEVROLET CAPTIVA

A balanced vehicle to fit all lifestyles

IN ITS FIRST APPEARANCE, GENERAL MOTORS Philippines' latest all-new Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV), the Chevrolet Captiva, makes its debut at the 1st Philippine International Motor Show. The Chevrolet Captiva was designed to meet the demands of active drivers for daily business use, leisure, and family recreation.

To serve all driving needs, the Chevrolet Captiva is available in two engine types - a 2.4-litre gasoline engine , 2WD transmission and a 2.0-litre turbo diesel engine, available in all-wheel-drive (on-demand) and front-wheel-drive transmissions.

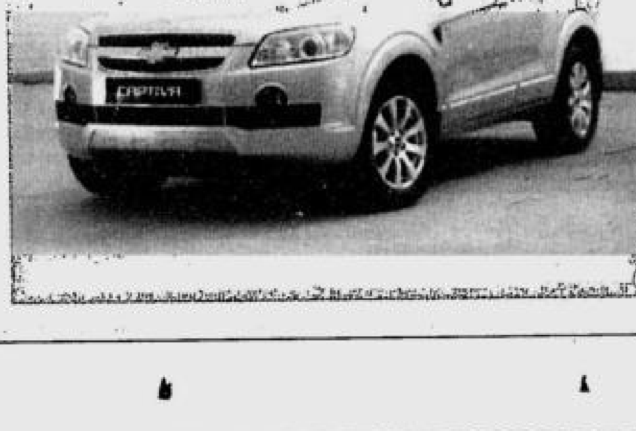
The Chevrolet Captiva offers a combination of the best characteristics of a comfortable, dynamic sedan with the toughness of a SUV. This makes the vehicle perfectly suited for congested urban driving, long highway journeys and fun adventures on rough terrain. The Captiva has proven itself over five million kilometers of tests under different road conditions and different weather conditions all over the globe.

Luxurious and sporty

The Chevrolet Captiva is the result of collaboration among 11 GM research and development centers around the world. As many as 450 prototypes were developed and tested before the final model was approved for production. Its premium features evoke the same feelings one gets from luxurious, powerful and sporty SUVs.

The Chevrolet Captiva has a strong character with thoroughly modern proportions. The bold, handsome front grill is designed to be timeless and modern. The headlamps are aggressive with double-rounded bulbs, complementing the round-shaped fog lamps. The lower section looks very robust, and the body features bold lines and taut surfaces that combine to give a sporty muscular appearance with stylish elegance. The front bumper looks very robust and features bold lines that give the SUV a sporty muscular appearance with stylish elegance.

The dynamic side character line rises up toward the rear, highlighting the roomy passenger space and the wheelbase of 2,707 millimeters. The wheels featured are sporty multi-spoke alloys. The roof curve line integrates well with the front part of the vehicle, giving the Chevrolet Captiva a very aerodynamic profile.



The rear of the Chevrolet Captiva was designed to be distinctive. The rear window can be opened independently from the rear door, making accessing the cargo space more convenient. A rear wiper aids in better visibility and the back-up lamps are integrated within the transparent rear lamp covers, providing strong contrast against the shiny red lamps. The rear bumper is augmented with aggressive aluminum-color protection and dual exhausts add just the right touch of sportiness.

A calming, well thought-out interior

In addition to its roomy comfort, the Chevrolet Captiva's interior - from the side door to the console - was thoughtfully designed to emphasize its calming nature. To give the interior a modern look, aluminum accents are used to highlight the door handles, center part of the console and the steering wheel. The Chevrolet Captiva is equipped with a premium audio system that includes a radio receiver and 6-disc MP3-compatible front CD changer. As a safety feature audio controls are also accessible via the multi-function remote on the steering wheel.

Storage in front of the passenger seat uses cool air from the air conditioner to keep refreshments chilled throughout long drives. The second row seats can be folded down to create more cargo space and capacity increases to an impressive 930 litres.

The design of the gear shift is modern with aluminum accents. The automatic transmission is a 5-speed Tiptronic, providing drivers with the convenience of an automatic with the sporty precision of a stick shift.

Riding in comfort and safety

The Chevrolet Captiva is designed not only as a balanced vehicle but also to maximize comfort and safety.

The Rain Sensor wipers adjust the speed of the blades automatically to match the volume of rain hitting the windshield. As an added convenience, the headlamps also shut off automatically moments after the engine is turned off and the key is removed, and will turn on again when the doors are unlocked by remote control.

Maximum performance for gasoline and diesel engines

Because the Chevrolet Captiva was designed to be the vehicle solution for multiple purposes, from everyday commuting, to family recreation as well as outdoor fun, it was important for the vehicle performance to be flexible to meet every driving requirement.

The power plant in the gasoline Chevrolet Captiva is a 2.4-litre, 16-valve DOHC four-cylinder engine generating maximum power of 142 PS at 5,000 rpm and 220 nm at 2,200 rpm of torque for a powerful yet smooth ride.

The common rail diesel Chevrolet Captiva has a 2.0-litre, SOHC engine with a turbo intercooler, with maximum output of 150 PS at 4,000 rpm and 320nm at 2,000 rpm of torque.

The automatic transmission is a 5-speed Tiptronic. This "manual-shift" offers both the performance of a manual when precise control is required and the convenience of an automatic. Even in automatic mode the transmission allows for fast kick-downs for immediate acceleration when passing power is urgently required.

In addition to the efficient powertrain, the Captiva's suspension set-up features MacPherson struts up front and an independent four-link design in the rear, giving the vehicle excellent road handling as well as a smooth ride.

Driving safely with on-demand all-wheel-drive

The weakness of AWD is increased fuel consumption but not in the Chevrolet Captiva. In normal road conditions, the Chevrolet Captiva operates with only the two front wheels. But when the system identifies a situation where four wheels would be better than two, such as in wet road conditions or rough terrain, the all-wheel-drive system will transfer power to the rear wheels in proportions ranging from 50:50, 60:40, or 70:30 depending on the situation. The benefit of this is that Captiva gets much better fuel economy without the trade-off of safety or flexibility when compared to other AWD vehicles.

The Chevrolet Captiva was awarded a four-star quality rating for occupant protection in its category by Euro NCAP (www.euroncap.com), one of the highest regarded safety organizations.

Excellent after-sales service on par with global standards is available through Chevrolet's nationwide dealer network. Customers can be confident with the knowledge that Chevrolet's warranty package of three years or 100,000 kilometers, 24-hour Roadside Assistance and quality service at 13 Chevrolet dealers throughout the country are protecting them every kilometer they drive.

The Chevrolet Captiva will be available in the market soon and will be launched at special introductory prices:

2WD GAS A/T - P 1,175,000

2WD DIESEL A/T - P 1,275,000

AWD GAS A/T - P 1,375,000

AWD DIESEL A/T - P 1,475,000

The National Auto Club

CTPL from a motorist's viewpoint

Making Motoring Fun
By
Gus Lagman, AAP president

IT IS JUST A PIECE OF PAPER that we keep neatly tucked in a plastic jacket inside the glove compartment of our cars. We don't really pay attention to it; no, not until it's time to renew our car's registration. Or until (knock on wood) we figure in an accident and someone gets injured or dies.

I'm referring to the Compulsory Third Party Liability insurance that we buy every time we go to the Land Transportation Office for registration. It's a mandatory insurance, meaning everyone with a motor vehicle is required to buy one. I understand that it is a requirement set forth by the Insurance Code and was first put in place in the '70s.

There's been much talk about CTPL lately and we couldn't help but be curious. What I have read in the papers are the following:

There are reportedly fake CTPLs being sold at the LTO that defraud the government of half a billion pesos in taxes.

The Government Service Insurance System wants to take over the CTPL business and integrate it with the LTO registration

Insurance companies and their agents are up in arms against the possible government takeover of this P3-billion-a-year business.

As a motorist buying CTPL every year, here's my take on the issue:

First, fake CTPLs have been rumored to be in existence for years and the government should indeed do something about it not only for the taxes it loses but also because these fake insurance policies are like salt that you rub on the wounds of accident victims. Perhaps, adding a verification system is all that is necessary to solve this problem.

Second, even as I would want a simple solution to this complex problem, I would not recommend a monopoly. In a monopoly, everybody loses. Service to policy holders would definitely suffer, and motorists would be deprived of their freedom of choice. If they're not satisfied with how the insurance provider is serving them, they would not be able to go to another company even if they wanted to. I truly believe that the government—and the GSIS—should leave the CTPL insurance in private sector's hands. It's better off taking care of government vehicles instead.

And third, I believe it's about time insurance companies expand the coverage of CTPL. At present, CTPL only covers death and bodily injuries. It's virtually useless because statistics show that 90 percent of road accidents result in property damage. Insurance companies should include damage to property in their CTPL coverage to make CTPL insurance more meaningful to motorists. They can do it as optional first, with a little add-on premium, then later make it standard practice once they reach a critical mass. They can even add a personal accident insurance for a little more. This way, those who cannot afford to get a comprehensive insurance package could get more insurance protection at a price they can afford.

Agree or disagree? Text your comments to 0918/0917 812-6000. Please include your name, place of residence and indicate if you're an AAP member. I would love to hear what you think about this issue.

Happy motoring!

Insurance companies should include damage to property in their CTPL coverage to make CTPL insurance more meaningful to motorists

MOTORSPORTS

Tiu rules AAP-sanctioned drag race series

JONATHAN TIU OF TEAM ERE finished only second in the fifth and final leg but this did not stop him from winning the overall championship in the AAP-sanctioned San Mig Coffee Drag Racing Championship series at the Batangas Racing Circuit recently.

Tiu, who still holds the Philippine record of 10.254 seconds, wrapped up the premier Quick 8 title after tallying 65 points in the event sponsored by San Mig Coffee.

For his feat, Tiu also annexed the Drag Racing Driver of the Year plum in the Golden Wheel Awards in February next year.

"I was disappointed something happened to the car in the final showdown. But I'm very happy I still bagged the overall crown," said Tiu.

Mico Vinarao of Blanche Racing copped the first runner-up honors with 35 points.

The Pro class ended in a historic fashion as three drivers – Sonny de Torres of Group N-Matonetics, Roy Peter Concepcion of Orthodox Racing and Mark Buquid of Team Batangas-Autokeep Racing – shared the overall crown. The three finished with 25 points apiece.

Both De Torres and Concepcion had one win and a runner-up finish while Buquid, who's also backed up by Visual Speed Autosign and St. Vincent Arrastre Inc, made a late surge by winning the fifth leg and finishing runner-up in the championship round.

Other winners were Vic Mallare of Team Ready and Charles Lu of Blanche Racing.

Mallare clinched the Hot Street crown after posting his third straight victory to upstage erstwhile leading lady driver Jeannette Go of Team Ere for the title.

Lu, on the other hand, crushed the challenge of four other strong contenders with his crucial runner-up finish in the final leg to win the Sportsman Class.

Tiu, who still holds the Philippine record of 10.254 seconds, wrapped up the premier Quick 8 title after tallying 65 points in the event sponsored by San Mig Coffee

Search for most senior AAP member to be launched

AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION Philippines is looking for the member who has been with the club for the longest time.

AAP director Nona Esquivel is spearheading the search and her team will review AAP's database for this purpose. "It will be very interesting to find out who among our members has been with AAP the longest," she said.

Since AAP was organized in 1931 as the Philippine Motor Association (PMA), it is now 76 years old. Esquivel noted that perhaps no original member of the association is still alive today as one has to have a driver's license in order to qualify for membership. This means that if someone joined the AAP in 1931, he/she had to be at least 18 years old at that time and would be turning 94 this year.

"Maybe we can find someone who joined the association before or shortly after World War II and is still alive today. We would like to give this member due recognition and award him or her with a lifetime membership," she said.

Long-time members will be requested to present their original PMA membership card or some other proof of their membership to AAP. Those who may know of long-time members can call AAP Membership Services manager Nessie Zornosa at 723-0808.

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X-TRAIL 2.0 4X2 AT	1,160,000	232,000	21,748	580,000	13,593
X-TRAIL 2.5 4X4 250	1,270,000	254,000	23,811	635,000	14,882
X-TRAIL 2.5 4X4 250X	1,380,000	276,000	25,873	690,000	16,171
Sentra 1.6 GSX MT	750,000	150,000	13,593	375,000	8,320
Sentra 1.6 GS AT	835,000	167,000	15,186	417,500	9,316
Sentra 1.3 GX AT	660,000	132,000	12,374	330,000	7,734
Sentra 1.3 GX MT PWR	630,000	126,000	11,812	315,000	7,382

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The National Auto Club

What they say about AAP

> The services and benefits I have availed of – from vehicle registration, towing service, to the Philippine International Driving Permit – are another dimension of my valued partnership with AAP

Being a member since 1980 and with about six cars registered with AAP, these attest to the trust and confidence that I have in this association. I have referred and recommended AAP to many vehicle owners, my family, colleagues and friends, and nobody has regretted becoming a member.

The services and benefits I have availed of—from vehicle registration, towing service, to the Philippine International Driving Permit—are another dimension of my valued partnership with AAP, unmatched by any other of my suppliers in the IT industry, of which I am part.

And probably unknown to many, the incumbent president of AAP, Augusto C. Lagman, is a pillar of the ICT industry. And this is reason enough to see AAP moving on in the next 24 years with more innovation and cutting-edge technologies.

- Rafael C. Cortez

Experience the worldwide benefits that only the premier national auto club can give.

JOIN

AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION AAP SINCE 1931 PHILIPPINES
The National Auto Club

YES! I would like to apply for an **AAP Membership**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME			
BIRTHDATE		BIRTHPLACE	
SEX ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE	CIVIL STATUS	AGE	CITIZENSHIP
OCCUPATION		HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	

CONTACT INFORMATION

HOME ADDRESS		
NAME OF BUSINESS		
OFFICE ADDRESS		
HOME PHONE	OFFICE PHONE	FAX NO.
CELL PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	

FOR APPLICANTS WITH CARS

CAR	MAKE	MODEL	YEAR	COLOR	PLATE NUMBER
1st					
2nd					

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☐ NEWSPAPER AD
☐ LEAFLETS/FLYERS
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☐ FRIENDS/RELATIVES
☐ OTHERS

DATE

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

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Annual Fee	P800	P500
Three-Year Fee (Optional)	P2,000	P1,250
Joining Fee	P200	P200
No. of Cars May Be Registered With AAP	2	1
No. of ERS Per Year	4	3
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Tel: (632) 850.9831 • Fax: (632) 850.6903

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** Plus a ONE-TIME Joining Fee of Php 200.00*

In the mid '90s, I was no believer of pagers, clunky mobile phones or towing club membership. At 11 p.m., one dark and foreboding night, my vehicle came to an inexplicable stop at the South Luzon Expressway as I was driving home from Alabang, just after exiting the tollgate near Magallanes Village.

With neither pager nor mobile phone on board, and amidst the circling of nasty tow trucks as if vultures waiting to pounce on a dying prey, I surveyed the immediate vicinity of the spot where my vehicle had gasped its last breath, espied the Shell station across the expressway, and drew a sigh of relief. Succor was at hand, or so it seemed.

Sadly, however, the gasoline boys told me their owner had prohibited them from crossing over to the other side to repair stalled vehicles. No problem, I consoled myself, lend me your phone and I'll call one of those 24-hour tow truck service companies. I was led to a decrepit, half-ruined backroom where an oil-stained telephone of 1960s vintage lay alongside an equally ancient PLDT directory.

Thumbing rapidly through the Yellow Pages, I located "Towing", went on to call each one, only to be met by an incessant ringing that seemed to interest no one. Indeed, this was 24-hour service!

Scrolling down to the last few entries, I settled on "Philippine Motor Association." An operator responded after two rings, asked me to describe my vehicle, analyzed my problem and advised me that I had to pay P1,000 if I had any intentions of reaching the comforts of my home in fairly good order – that was P500 for the annual membership, and another P500 for the immediate towing service.

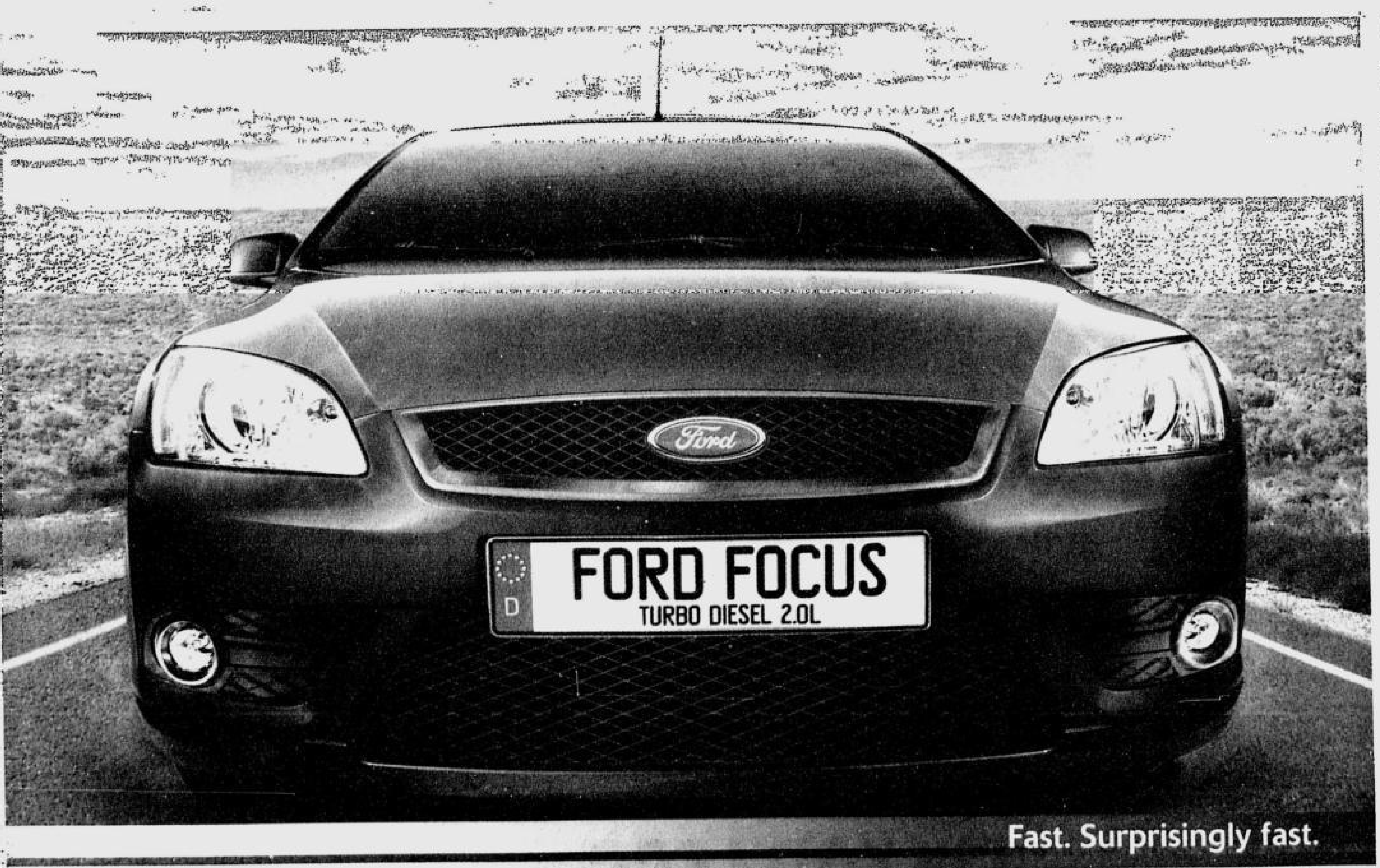
In less than 20 minutes, a sparkling new tow truck arrived at the scene, with a thoroughly friendly technician operating the boom via a computer console and explaining to me that his truck was meant precisely for my type of vehicle. I rode with him on the truck on the way back to my house and continued to have a pleasant conversation.

In that half hour while my car was being towed, I learned a number of interesting details—how they would attend to a call from a member stalled on his way to Baguio, what tow truck would fit what vehicle, what response times were for various distances.

At last, my ordeal was over—I subscribed to a pager service the following day, continued to entertain doubts about a mobile phone for almost a year more, but also became a lifelong convert that night of what was to become the AAP.

- Augusto L. Toledo II

> In that half hour while my car was being towed, I learned a number of interesting details – how they would attend to a call from a member stalled on his way to Baguio, what tow truck would fit what vehicle, what response times were for various distances



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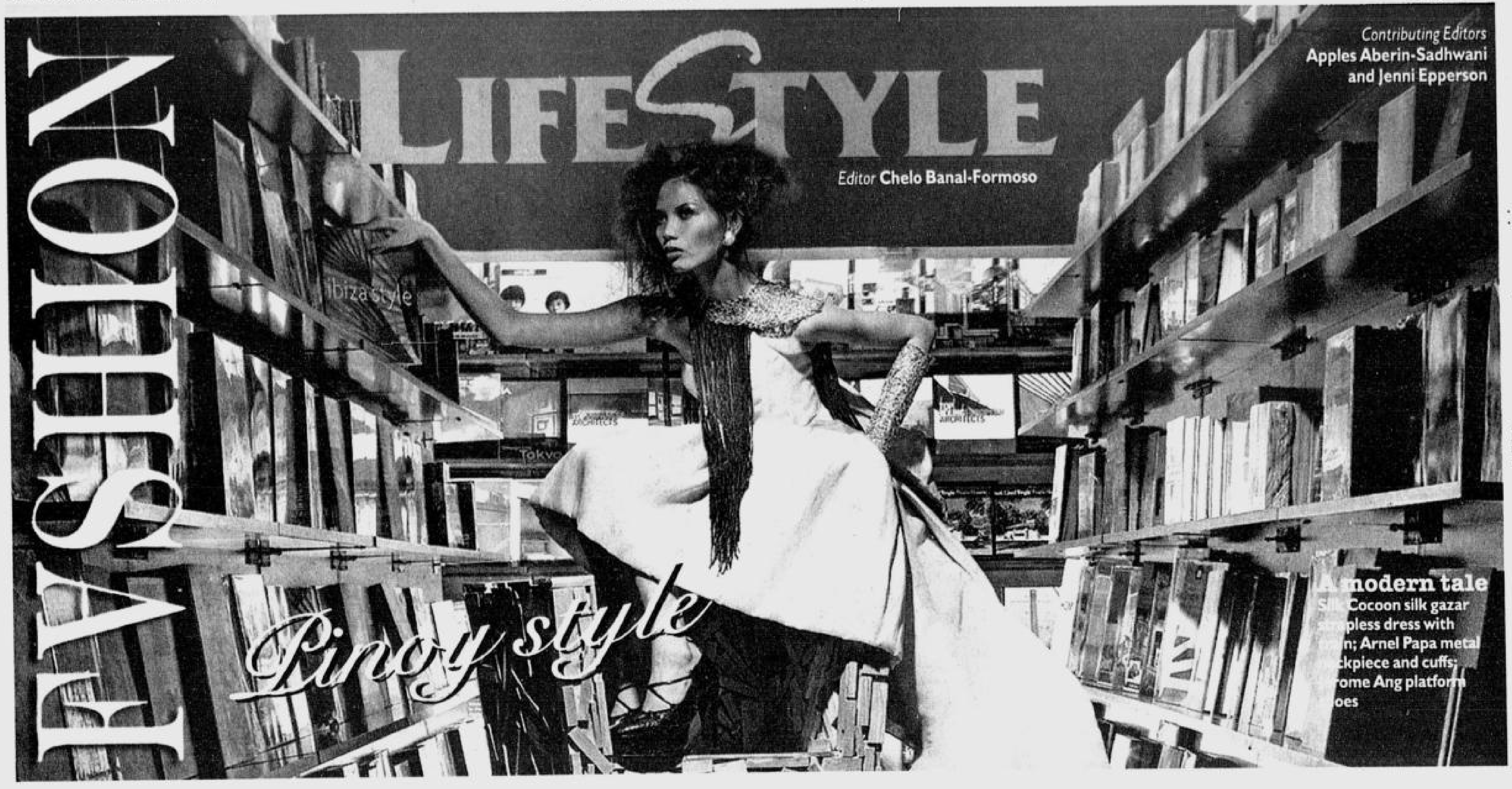
LIFESTYLE
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
Contributing Editors
Apples Aberin-Sadhwani
and Jenni Epperson



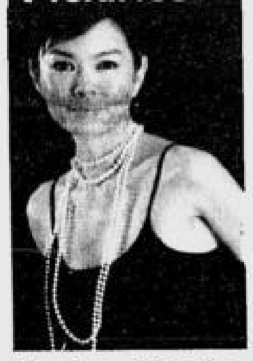
FASHION

Pinoy style

A modern tale
Silk Cocoon silk gazar strapless dress with train; Arnel Papa metal neckpiece and cuffs; Jerome Ang platform shoes

Here are world-class designers and brands that are distinctly, proudly Filipino

APPLES' PICKINGS



Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

TODAY, WE CHOOSE TO celebrate Filipino talent, craftsmanship and ingenuity. No special occasion, really. We've always had the strongest urge to share with you information on designers and brands that are uniquely Pinoy, and as such, never fail to make us proud.

We hope they spark that flame of Pinoy pride in you, too.

Indigenous ideals

First off, we laud MODI (Modern Indigenous), a lifestyle line that merges traditional crafts with modern design and function. With the goal of increasing the value of crafts made by Philippine indigenous communities such as the Mangyans, T'bolis, Higaonons, to name a few, Modi brings together Philippine tribal artisans and city-bred designers to produce special products that feature culture-bound crafts presented in contemporary ways.

The Modi collection reflects rawness, which echoes the simple life of the indigenous artisan. The culture of these artisans translates to precious, one-of-a-kind products not meant for mass consumption.

With Modi's help, designers can create pieces that are distinctly Pinoy. But more importantly, with Modi's assistance, the livelihood of many indigenous artists is supported and strengthened.

The current Modi line was crafted with the help of designers Ritchie Ortega, Tracie Anglo-Dizon, Mara Cosculluela and Kirby Quintal, Ito Kish and Gabby Lichauco. It is available in Souk (in Serendra), Ito Kish and Crossings Dept. Store, to name a few outlets. Visit www.modiphilippines.com.

Praise for Papa

We celebrate accessories designer Arnel Papa, who is known for his highly artistic and ultra-stylish creations. This reluctant craftsman (he always wanted to be a doctor) was fortunately convinced by his father to get into the family business.

Set to open his first boutique in Greenbelt 5 by October, Arnel always makes it a point to create pieces that are exclusive and distinctive. Drawing inspiration from the things around him, he creates masterpieces made of local materials like carabao horn, mother of pearl and coco wood, combined with copper and brass.

In five years' time, "Hopefully, I will be well-known, not only in the art industry, but also as someone who's helping promote our own crafts worldwide," he says.

Crazy for Cary

It's no secret that we're big fans of designer Cary Santiago. The Cebu-based couturier (and we're not using the term lightly) has taken the fashion industry by storm with his exquisitely made gowns and dresses (pleated and laser-cut to perfection, mind you).

He actually learned various couture techniques while working for a couture house in Beirut. "I learned a lot working with a master craftsman from the house of Balmain.

PINOY STYLE/ C2

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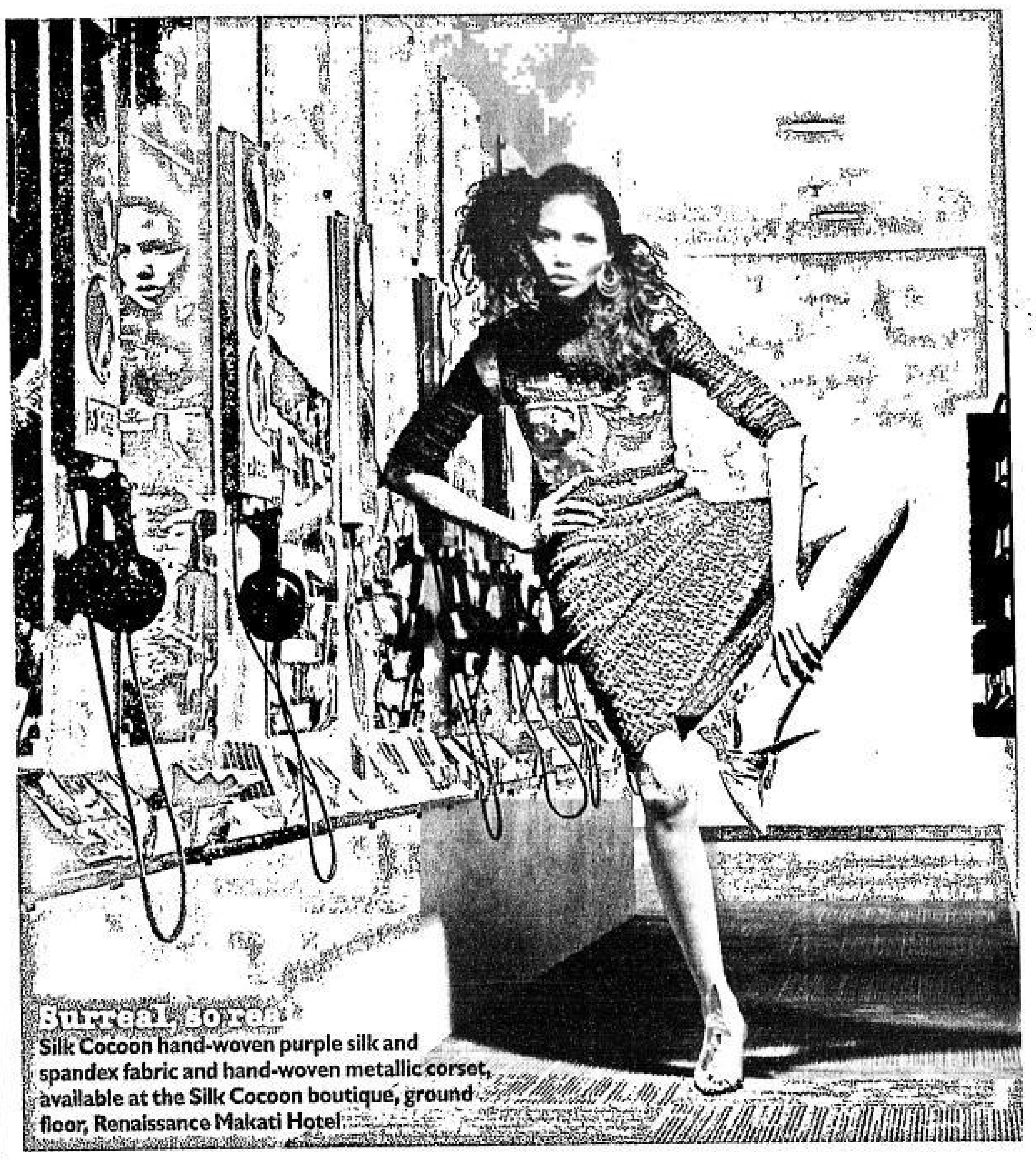
THE POWER PLANT (ROCKWELL CENTER) · GATEWAY MALL, ARANETA CENTER · SM MALL OF ASIA

thnic eccentric
di capelet, tank with Mangyan script, orange , cuff and watch; Arnel Papa bracelet; Aranaz lime woven clutch with gold handle; Viktor jeans, available at Podium, Ortigas Center



Surreal soiree
Silk Cocoon hand-woven purple silk and spandex fabric and hand-woven metallic corset, available at the Silk Cocoon boutique, ground floor, Renaissance Makati Hotel

Pinoy style

From page C1

This was what opened and polished my dressmaking techniques and the discipline that I now apply to my everyday work."

The ever-humble designer says he is, even now, learning and discovering new things. "I opened my shop (in Cebu) a year ago when the war with Israel broke. And I find that everyday at work is still a learning process," he says.

Asked to describe his design style, Cary says, "My silhouettes may change, but my expertise—the techniques and modes that I've developed through the years, the craftsmanship and stitching and even the seamless gowns—remains the signature of every piece I create."

Tote for the day

"I always say I like to 'de-ethnicize the ethnic,'" says bag designer Amina Aranaz-Alunan, whom we absolutely adore. "I like manipulating our indigenous materials to create surprisingly chic and modern fashion pieces."

She's been known to design breathtaking pieces such as oversized plastic totes combined with wooden and straw accents, and little coco disco bags that had Manila's fashionistas lining up.

Says Amina, "I like being able to surprise my customers with the numerous usages of local materials, thus giving them a renewed appreciation for Filipino craftsmanship and handiwork."

It's no accident that this cum laude graduate of Master Accessories Design at the Istituto Marangoni is into the art of designing and crafting bags. "My mom, Becky, continues to be an exporter of women's bags. So I grew up in the business. The bag factory became my playground and the venue that allowed me to explore my creative side."

Currently, Amina is busy working on her holiday collections (inspired by Paul Poiret and geometrics), which will be available in Aranaz, her stand-alone boutique in Powerplant. And to share her knowledge and know-how, she will also be opening a school called School of Fashion & Arts (SOFA) in the last quarter of this year.

"Fashion education is something that I had always dreamt of doing. There is a rising yearning for fashion education out there, so I think now is the right time to open a school," she says.

Silk sensation

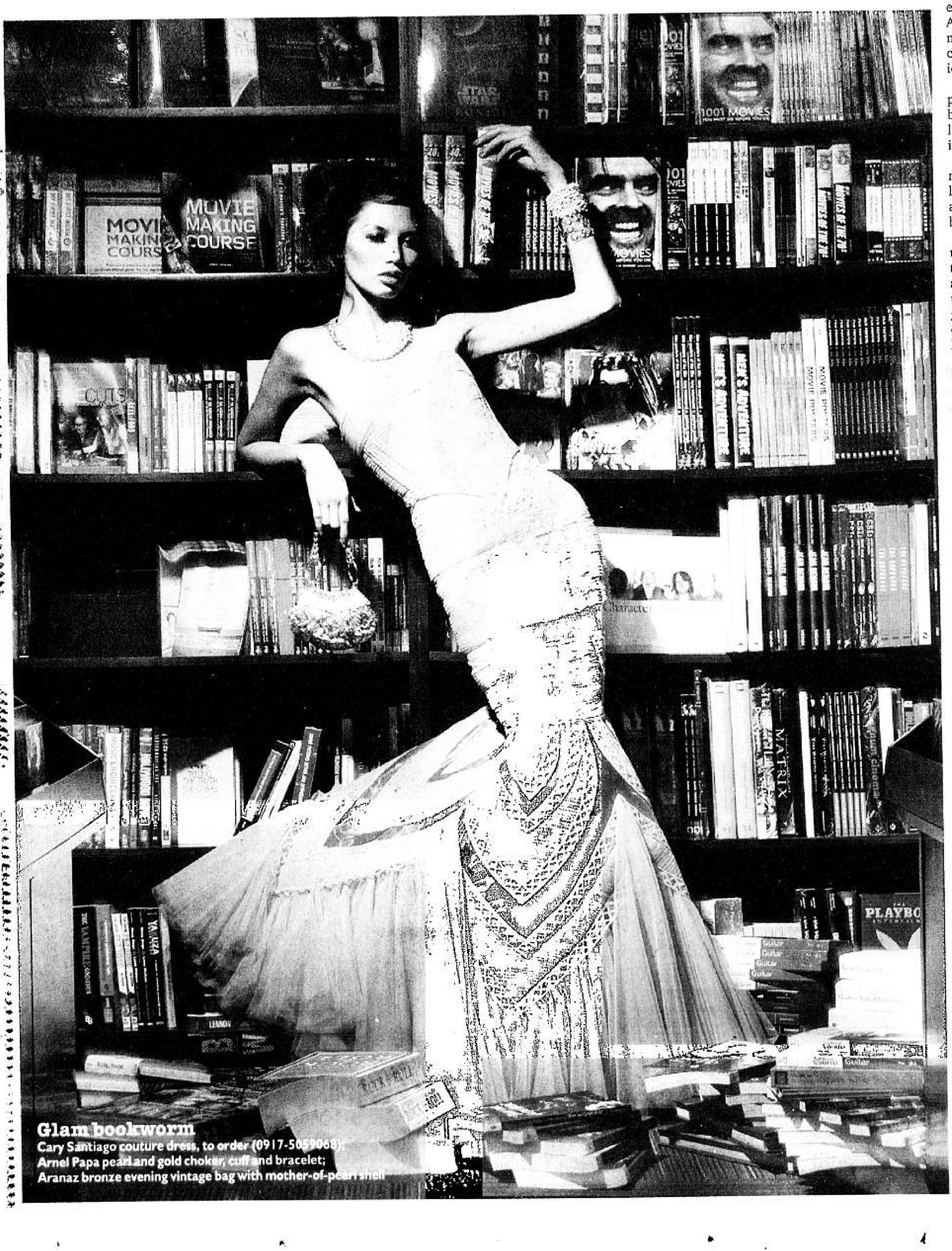
Her strong belief that Filipinos could create world-class products led designer Jean Goulbourn to launch Silk Cocoon in 1994, a line of high-end silk-based fabric for fashion and interiors. Although the brand is also renowned for its power barongs and women's fashion, it is recognized for trailblazing the export of textiles to prestigious names in the fashion, interior design and hospitality industries.

Big names like Nina Ricci, Christian LaCroix, Loewe and Donna Karan have reportedly ordered textiles from Silk Cocoon. Textiles for interiors have also been exported to countless architects and distributors around the globe, especially in Europe.

Silk Cocoon has also had the honor of dressing visiting foreign dignitaries, beginning with the 1996 Apec Summit, then the Asean Summit last January 2007, and again the Asean Foreign Ministers meeting last month.

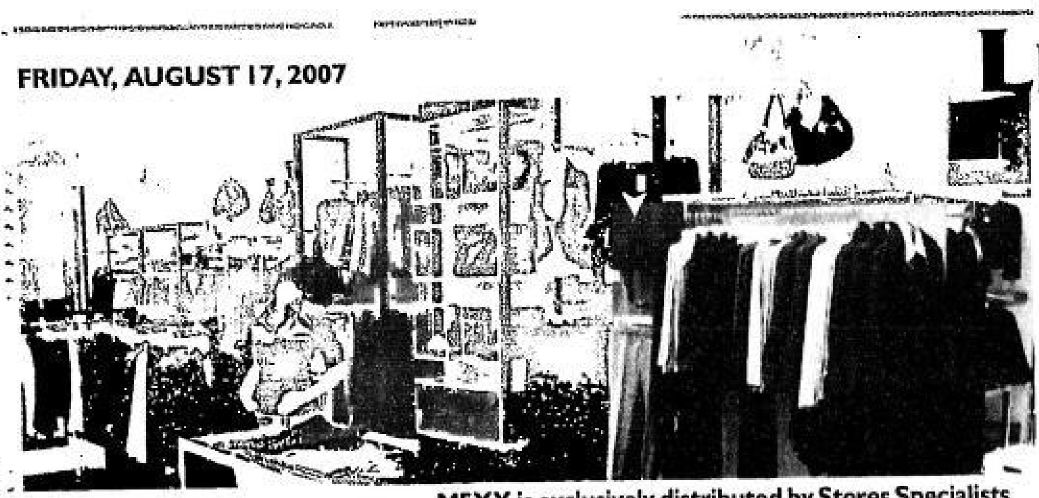
Jean's vision, combined with passion, creativity and hard work, has put Filipino artistry on the world map. Now that's something to celebrate.

E-mail the author at afashion@inquirer.com.ph



Glam bookworm
Cary Santiago couture dress, to order (0917-5059068);
Arnel Papa pearl and gold choker, cuff and bracelet;
Aranaz bronze evening vintage bag with mother-of-pearl shell

Photography Jun de Leon
Styling Millet Arzaga
Model Ria Bolivar
Hair and makeup Weng de Guzman/Bench Fix
Photography assistants Aldrin Convocar, Ramon Ty, Joseph Grego/Wings Photography
Hair and makeup assistants Joseph 'Jojo' Sibug, Franco Barrameda /Bench Fix
Image manipulation
Adan Convocar /Wings Photography
Location Fully Booked, Bonifacio High Street



MEXX is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists Inc., and is available at SM Mall of Asia, Greenbelt 3, TriNoma and Rustan's Makati.

Shop in style

SHOP IN STYLE WITH THE launch of the new Mexx concept store in Greenbelt 3. Designed by Mexx's in-house architectural team with the special assistance of Italian interior design consultant Michela Fabbri, the store interiors exude a cozy residential feel that fosters an accessible and effortless shopping experience.

The look and feel of the store is distinctly European and contemporary. Natural materials like stone flooring and wood units are combined with glass and polished chrome for a sophisticated and premium feel.

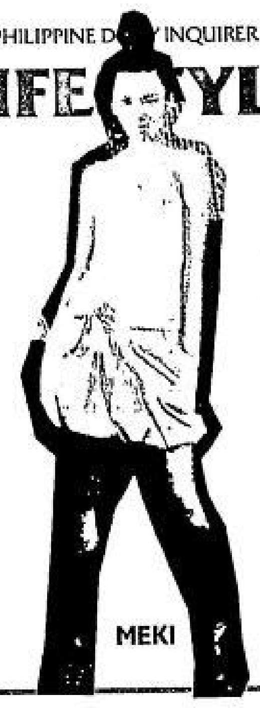
The use of focused lighting gives the store a warm mood. The open space and the way the collection is segmented into clear "product stories" make it easy for consumers to navigate through the store intuitively.

Mexx markets an extensive range of fashion apparel and lifestyle accessories for women, men and children.

Its contemporary and affordable products can also be found in more than 66 countries throughout Europe, Canada, the Middle East and Asia-Pacific region. Visit www.mexx.com.

FASHION BUZZ

Hot, haute, hot news!



MEKI

Model mania

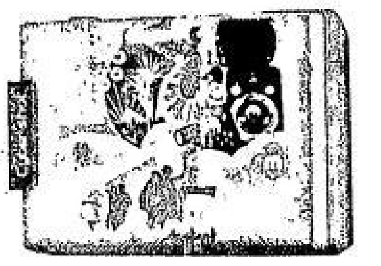
SO YOU WANT TO BE A supermodel? Well, if you're at least 14 years of age; female; with a valid Philippine passport; plus, of course, clear skin, impressive bone structure, good teeth, proportional body measurements and a positive attitude (whew!), you just might get that chance.

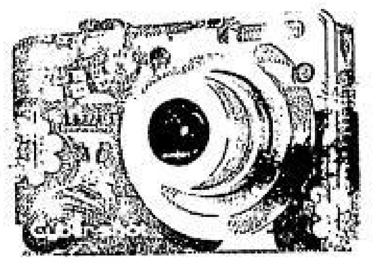
Runway Productions is hosting a national screening for the Supermodel of the World Philippines 2007 Search on Aug. 24, 8 a.m., at the Rockwell Tent.

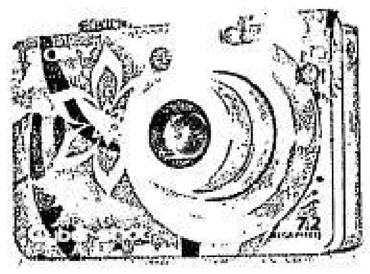
Simply bring a black mini-dress and heels, and swimwear. And don't wear any make-up!

Online Applications are available at www.calcarries.com or www.runwayproductions. com. Call 844-0350 and 7533688.

CHARO







Wrap it up!

SONY PHILIPPINES INC. AND First Gmask Phils. Inc (Gmask) have joined forces to offer Filipinos a fashionable yet practical new way to appreciate and love their digital cameras.

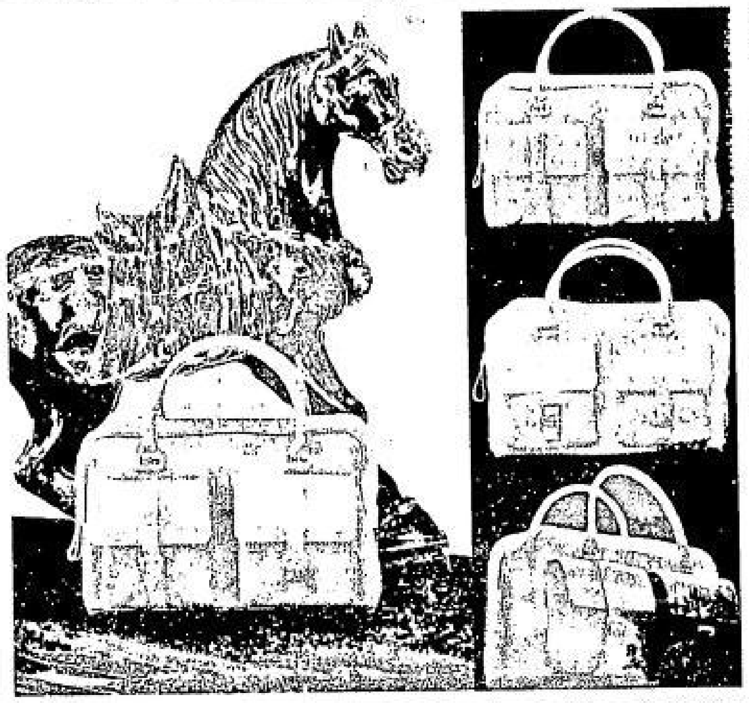
Up to Sept. 30, anyone who buys a Cyber-shot digital camera from any participating Sony Square outlet in Metro Manila will have an automatic P150 discount when they have their Cyber-shots Gmasked.

What is Gmask? It's the latest and hottest trend in dressing up and protecting your gadgets. Through the use of a special protective film from Japan, specially trained Gmask wrap-artists will cover your entire gadget, rendering it scratch-, weather- and sweat-resistant.

Not only does Gmask let you personalize your gadget, it also extends the life/usage of the gadget and increases its resale value as well.

With more than 20,000 gadgets wrapped in the Philippines alone, the company has taken gadget-loving Pinoys by storm. And with a recent announcement of a 20-percent price adjustment that will lower costs, it is now even more affordable.

"We believe that the Sony-Gmask tieup is a good synergy since both companies are offering quality products at great value. We look forward to more ways to reach out to Filipinos who know how to take care of their hard-earned gadgets in the near future," says Eric Chao, marketing manager of Gmask Phils.

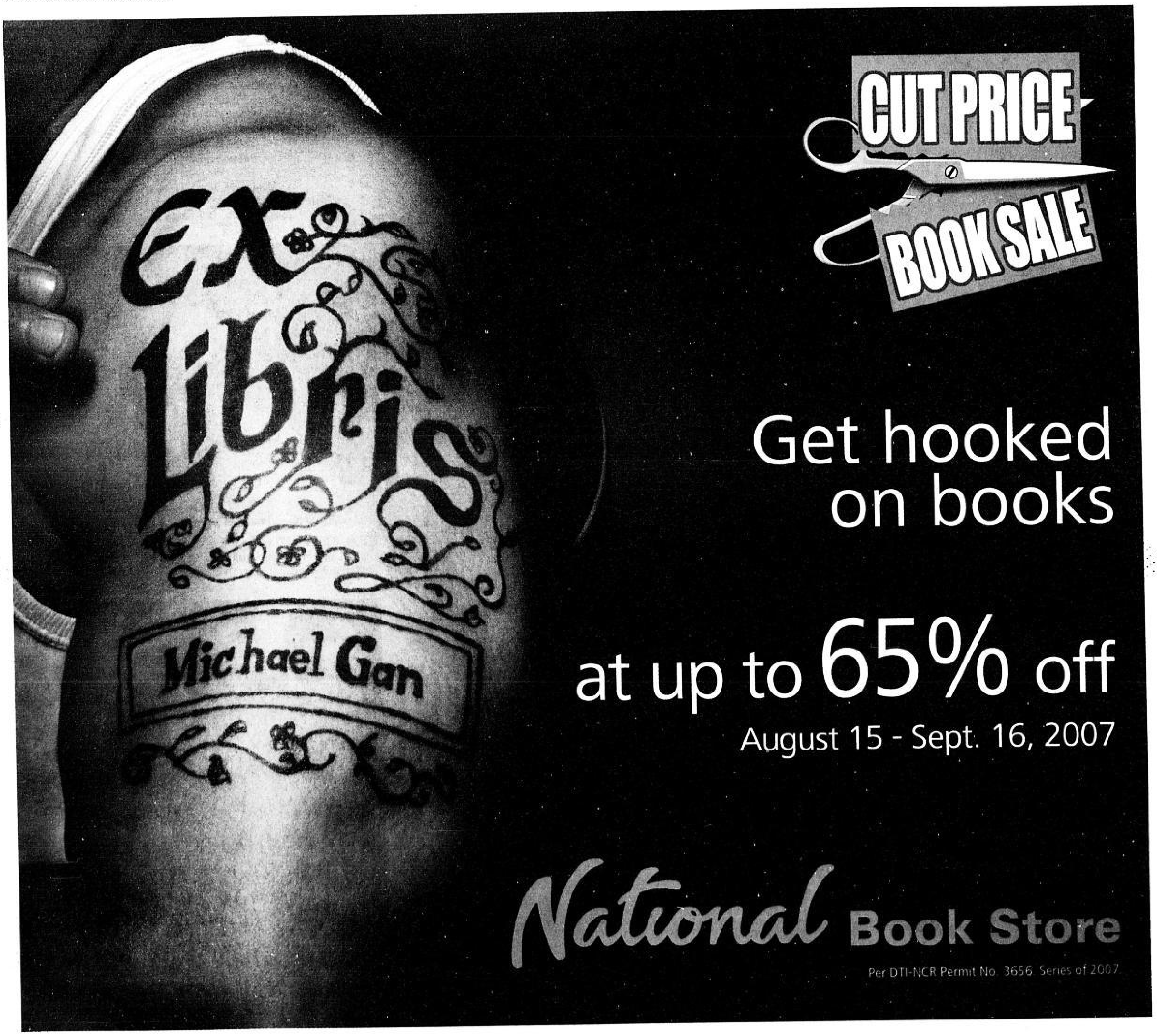


In the bag

HERE'S SOMETHING NEW for all bag lovers out there! Verushka recently released its latest edition Olivia satchel.

Made of genuine leather and available in various colors such as electric blue, grass green, chalk white, luscious caramel, true red, vivid orange, bubblegum pink and basic black, the bag measures a handy 35 cm x 24 cm.

The satchels are lined with contrasting colored fabric in the most vivid shades, making them fun, quirky and fashionable. Call or text 0922-8279988.



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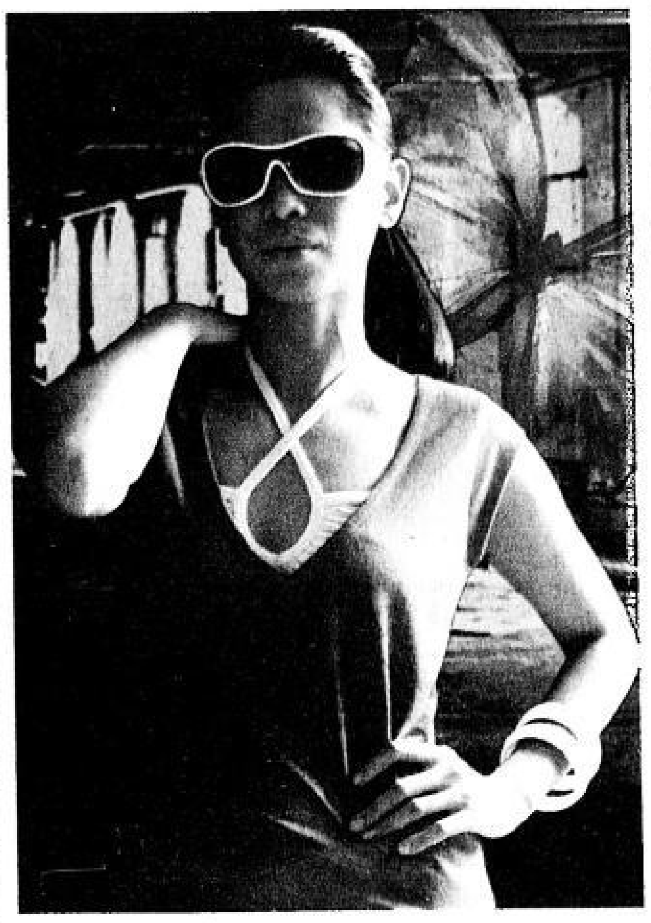


Sporty spice
Martha King wears Oakley Kickback Sleeve in azure layered over Oakley Pool Side Top Bikini in lychee. To complete the look is the Oakley Speechless eyewear.

Daredevil style
Gaby de la Merced dons the Oakley O Troop Jacket in dark brown and Oakley Gradient Tee in tomato matched with Oakley Disobey eyewear.

Female visionaries

THE OAKLEY WOMAN APPROACHES life uniquely. She lives and loves by her own rules and she's not about to wait for the world to define her. If her style seems out of the ordinary, it's because there is nothing ordinary about her. The Oakley woman has a natural look and sets herself apart from the rest with the "This is me" statement.

Race-car driver Gaby dela Merced; wakeboarder Martha King; athlete, sports buff Jeena Lopez; and swimmer Akiko Thompson are examples of the independence and individualism of the unique Oakley woman.

Just like these women, you, too, can take on challenges. A certified crowd drawer and consummate athlete, De la Merced's positive outlook and attitude toward success makes her a perfect Oakley woman.

"All actions and decisions made, be it within the norms of society or against the grain, are mine. I've fallen, bled and conquered. I am where I am because of it." She has contributed to the revival of the popularity of car racing, giving it glamour and the feminine charm.

Wakeboarding champion King can attest to the Oakley statement, having won several sports awards herself.

"An Oakley woman is a winner," Martha says. "She doesn't know how to quit. She keeps on going and realizes that discouragement is a choice. She gets up and moves on. She lives by her commitment and not by her emotions."

Extreme-sports enthusiast Lopez is no stranger to commitment in sports. Having been involved in rock climbing, skydiving, scuba diving and several triathlons, she personifies the Oakley woman with her dedication and unique take on life.

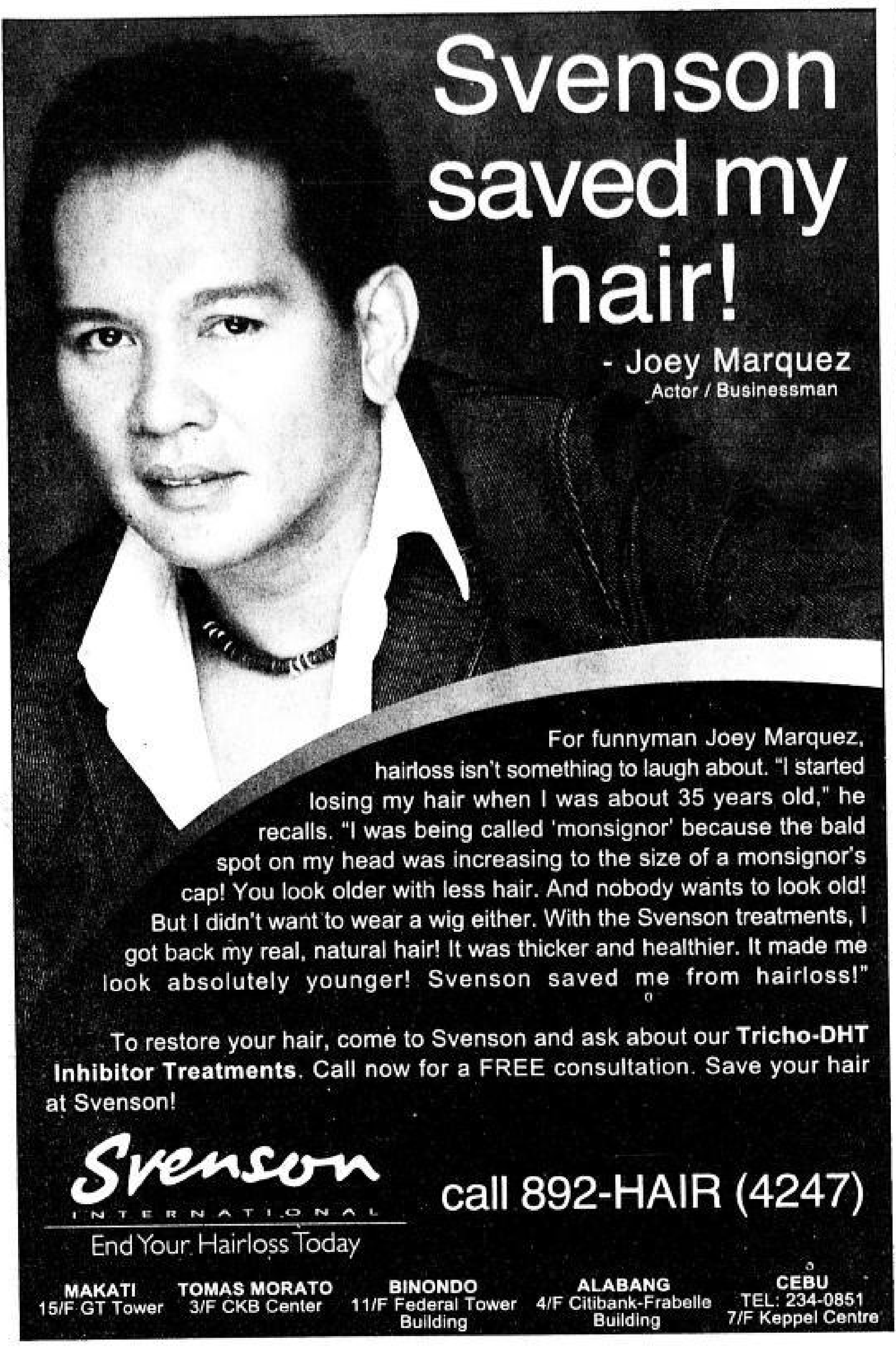
Swimmer Thompson has won the hearts of many with her discipline and dedication to her sport. An adventure seeker, Akiko believes in the Oakley Woman's affirmation, saying "I love the fact that it's not about fitting in, but about being who we were created to be, and expressing that which comes naturally."

Oakley eyewear and apparel is available at G Force shops in SM Mall of Asia, The Podium, Power Plant, Bonifacio High Street and TriNoma; at TiO2 in Greenbelt 3; selected Rustan's department stores, Olympic Village, Royal Sporting House and Toby's stores.

Photography Sidney Quinio
Styling Sao Salinda
Makeup Mickey See of Shu Uemura
Hair Nante Alingasa of Keihl's and Janet de Rama for Propaganda
Graphic design Burnwater Design Studios

The extremist
Jeena Lopez in Oakley Caddie Jacket in pale yellow, Oakley Collage Tank in mermaid, paired with Oakley Disobey shades

Water babe
Akiko Thompson in Oakley Compass V Neck in Mint and Oakley Behave sunglasses



Svenson saved my hair!
- Joey Marquez
Actor / Businessman

For funnyman Joey Marquez, hairloss isn't something to laugh about. "I started losing my hair when I was about 35 years old," he recalls. "I was being called 'monsignor' because the bald spot on my head was increasing to the size of a monsignor's cap! You look older with less hair. And nobody wants to look old! But I didn't want to wear a wig either. With the Svenson treatments, I got back my real, natural hair! It was thicker and healthier. It made me look absolutely younger! Svenson saved me from hairloss!"

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FASHION

Tough call

Tough Jeansmith fuses classical spirit and industrial energy

Jenni Epperson

THE FIRST THING YOU notice about Tough Jeansmith is its strong industrial design element. In fact, it takes its cue from the Bauhaus school of design, being the very first Bauhaus original private label that was launched in Hong Kong in 1994.

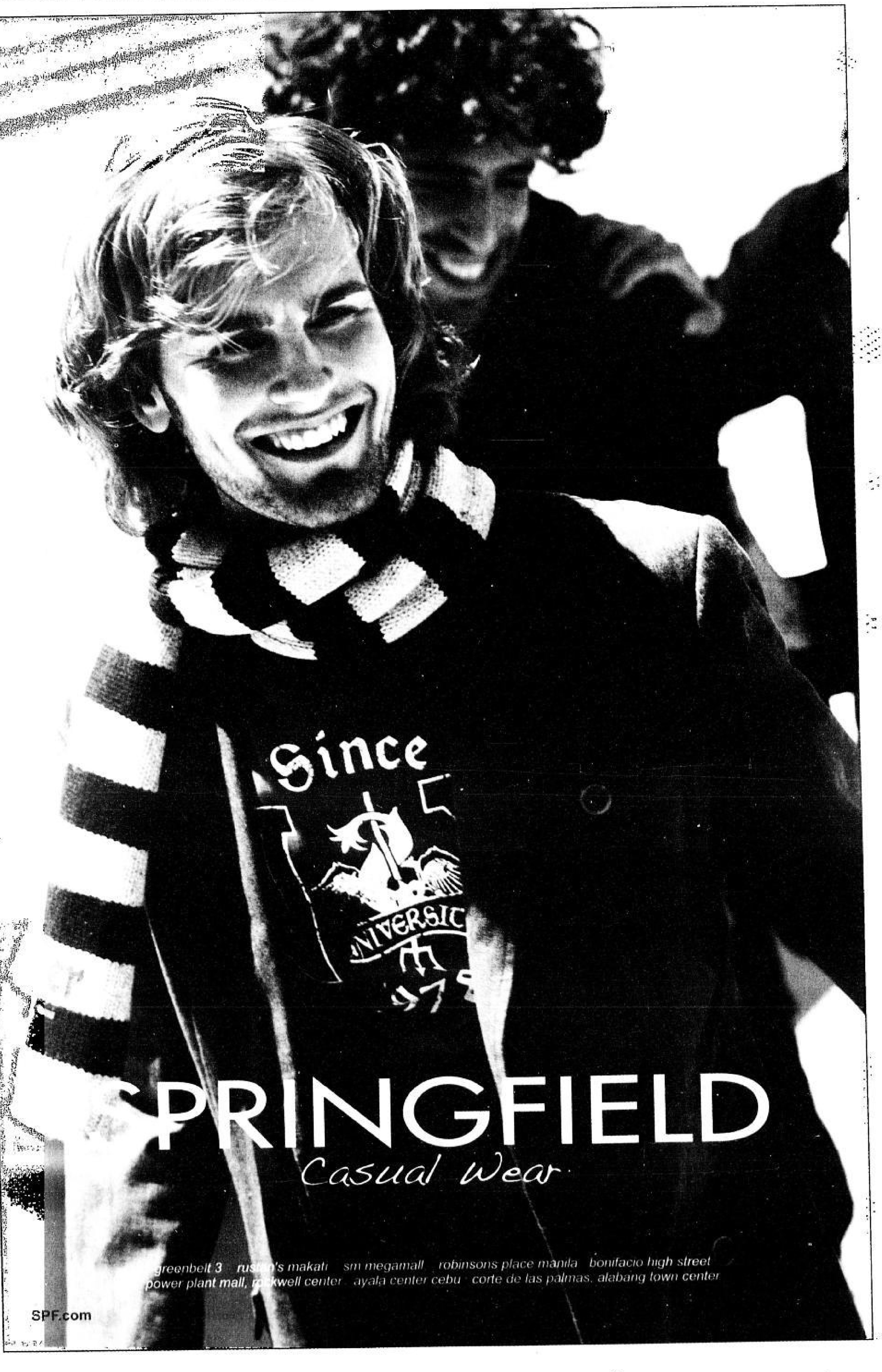
Taken from the German verb for "build," Bauhaus is a style that progressed from the idea that it was possible to reconcile artistic integrity and spirit with mass production. The style turned away from fanciful experimentation, and instead focused on simplicity and function in its design construction. The style then became known for its radically simplified forms which are rational and functional, and thereby easier to mass produce. Bauhaus became one of the most influential currents in Modernist architecture, and had a marked influence in art, graphic design, interior design, architecture and industrial design.

For the fashion label Tough Jeansmith, this style blueprint is carried out with its industrial and hardwearing yet sophisticated feel in its collection that ranges from jeans to bags and accessories. But it doesn't stop with the early 1930s European design movement—its uniqueness surfaces from a distinct Oriental background. Which makes a lot of sense considering Tough Jeansmith was created in Hong Kong—whose culture is an exciting mix of both East and West traditions. As such, the collection merges inspirations from these two worlds, as well as past and present design beliefs, creating a truly revolutionary label.

A good example of this East-meets-West

TOUGH CALL/ D3

INDUSTRIAL-strength jeans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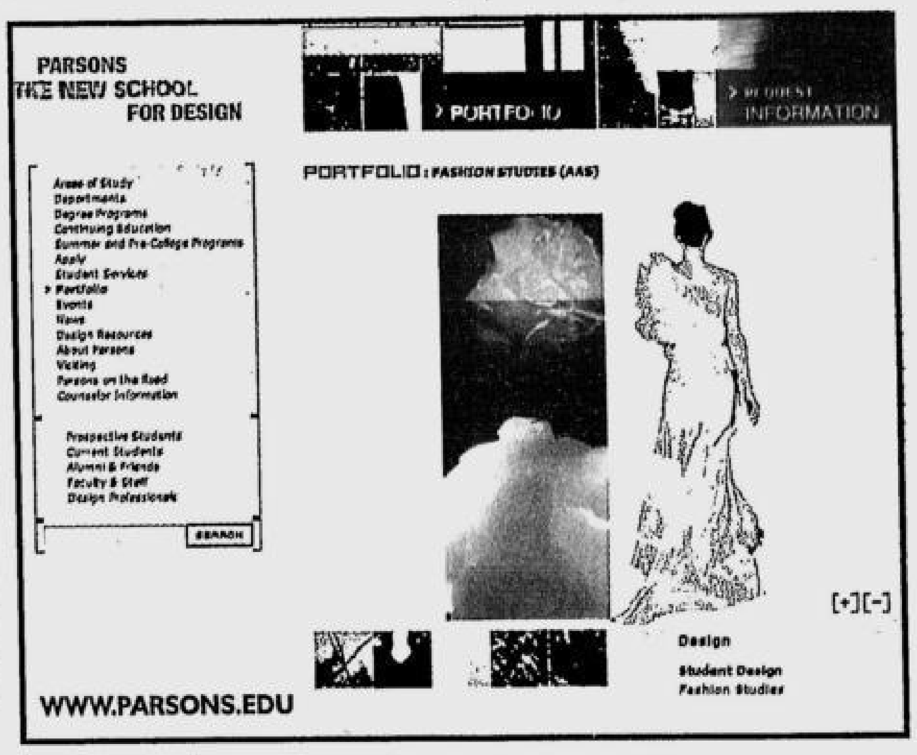
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Fashion by design

By Alex Y. Vergara

In an age of 'instant' designers, three established names in the biz still insist on the need for proper training and education

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WITH IDEAS BASED ON RAGing global trends just a few clicks away, there has never been a better time for wannabes to turn to a career in the world of fashion design than now.

Of late, fashion designers have become as ubiquitous as disposable clothes from China, with several unknowns debuting on the ramp and in glossies during a given season.

But in an age when "instant" designers are as common as instant photographers, journalists and stylists, three established names in the fashion biz still insist on the need for aspiring designers to begin their quest for fame and fortune the right way—that is, through proper training and education.

To them, the age-old rule of mastering the rules first before you even start thinking of breaking them still applies, more so in the crowded field of fashion. The glamour, they say, is a mere façade to a profession that in reality is time-consuming, nerve-wracking and backbreaking.

Viable options

While Rhett Eala went on to study fashion at the Academia Italiana in Florence after finishing high school, Amina Aranaz-Alunan first took Interdisciplinary Studies at the Ateneo before enrolling several years later in a 10-month master's program in fashion accessories at Istituto Marangoni in Milan.

"Since my parents didn't allow me to study fashion abroad, going to college was the best option I had," says Aranaz-Alunan. "The course made me a well-rounded person, as I was also exposed to writing, advertising and film production."

The lack of a viable option in the country also emboldened Eala to head for Italy in the late 1980s with his parents' blessing, including a good part of the family's savings. Apart from the year he spent learning Italian, Eala studied three years in Florence.

Although both designers spent a fortune on tuition alone (15,000 euros in Aranaz-Alunan's case), the time and money they invested, they swear, were worth it.

"I tried my luck later in New York, but it was quite difficult to break into the mainstream," says Eala. "But when I decided to come home, a job was already waiting for me here as the in-house designer of Due, which was then Rustan's newest label."

But there was no such thing as instant success even for the talented Eala. He worked behind the scenes for seven years until Rustan's finally saw it fit to put his name on the label. After four years, he left Rustan's to establish his own short-lived label called Wink.

Although Eala dabbles in couture, he still feels more at home doing RTW. In fact, he's now back doing what he does best as the creative director of Collezione's C2 line.

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Biggest name

Because of his achievements, Eala has been the biggest name to emerge in local RTW fashion since Cesar Gaupo and Larrie Silva.

"I admire the audacity of some young people to venture into designing," he says. "There are really lots of promising newcomers around."

At the same time, however, Eala is appalled at certain pretenders and their seeming lack of knowledge of things as basic as materials. It's also important, he stresses, for aspiring designers to read up not only on fashion, but also on art and history.

"A designer must be able to put into context and draw inspiration from various sources of information," says Eala. "In my case, I read more art books than fashion books when I was growing up."

Aranaz-Alunan, on the other hand, has been experiencing a steady increase in clientele since she introduced a line of statement bags for fashionable women like her in 2005.

Indeed, as the line's designer as well as brand manager, Aranaz-Alunan is also the best endorser for her striking and labor-intensive creations.

On top of her training abroad, she has the family's bag business to thank for helping her hone her craft. Aranaz-Alunan grew up exposed to bags, which her mom and her team still design and manufacture in a factory in Makati for various clients abroad.

The Aranaz line, which is exclusively sold at the Power Plant Mall in Rockwell, is a separate brand the former stylist and commercial model oversees herself.

"I can't say I was stylish, but I've always been drawn to fashion and the arts while I was growing up," she says. "My trip to Italy opened my eyes to various possibilities as far as accessories are concerned. Milan is still one of the best places to do research."

Short courses

Fashion designer Joji Lloren's route to further enlightenment was equally calculated, if a bit more tortuous. Attending short courses to further improve his craft was no longer new to him, but he still had to weigh matters carefully when a life-defining moment came his way a decade into his practice.

He was already an established name in the fashion scene, with a degree in Clothing Technology at the University of the Philippines tucked under his belt, when he won a coveted slot in a local contest in 1998 to represent the country in the Concours des Jeunes Createurs de Mode in Paris.

As luck would have it, his entry went on to win the grand prize, besting the works of some of the best and most promising designers all over the world. Part of his prize was a one-year scholarship at the Ecole de Chambre Syndicale de la Couture Parisienne.

Anyone would have grabbed the opportunity, leaving no room for second thoughts, but not Lloren who was then at a crossroads.

Aside from the chance to advance his skills as a designer, the French way, availing himself of the scholarship could further boost his reputation and his client list upon his return home. That was, if he still had a career to come home to.

"I knew my career might lose momentum if I leave," he says. "I also considered the possibility of my clients switching to other designers once I'm gone. In the end, I simply prayed and allowed the situation to take its course."

The designer was also humble and realistic enough to settle for a scholarship in the second year instead of the more advanced third year, where graduating students are tasked to make actual clothes.

His choice to focus on more basic stuff, he says, has served him well. He unlearned and let go of a few bad habits along the way. At the same time, he was able to master the art of draping on a mannequin.

"I would have wanted to stay on and finish the third year, but my finances didn't allow me," says Lloren. "Getting a job to further support my studies was impractical, as school would have eaten up most of my time."

Memorable moment

Like Eala, Lloren also tried to get a job after school even as an apprentice to one of the many fashion houses in Paris. But his efforts led him nowhere. Apart from his lack of connections, people seemed reluctant to refer him since he didn't speak French well.

"If I had been more brazen, I'd probably still be there," Lloren says in hindsight. "But I'm not complaining. Imbibing certain techniques in French couture is as good as it gets."

One of the most memorable moments he had while in Paris was assisting backstage in one of Jean Paul Gaultier's shows during Fashion Week.

The funny part was, he and his classmates weren't even supposed to be there, but were expected to help a lesser-known female designer. It took forever for the designer and her team to arrive that Lloren and his friends had wandered off and ended up in Gaultier's salon.

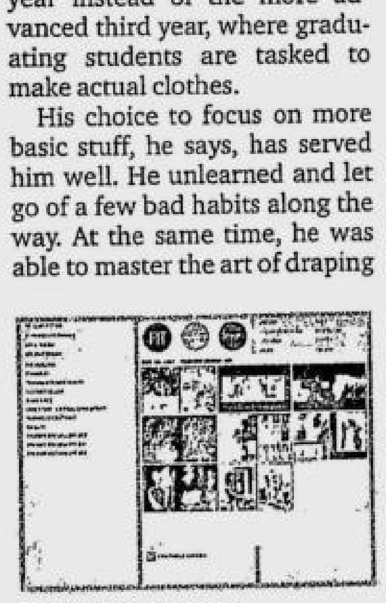
"The [female] designer was quite mad at us, and promptly told our teachers about it," he says. "I don't care. Assisting Gaultier, even if it was for free, was a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Since he believes in the importance of a good education, Lloren has been graciously sharing his techniques and trade secrets in small classes he has been holding in his shop every so often.

Aranaz-Alunan will follow in Lloren's footsteps in September as she begins teaching a certificate program in bag design. The development is in conjunction with a fashion school she and a friend are opening next month (*see sidebar*).

"I will be giving away a few of my trade secrets," she says with a wide grin. "I believe it's our respective imaginations, not our trade secrets, that set us apart from each other. I don't mind teaching would-be competitors since it will be good for the industry."

Lloren echoes her thoughts: "Before I decided to teach, I asked myself why I would want to give away knowledge that my students are bound to use against me in the future. But I came to the conclusion that we all think and interpret things differently. You teach for noble reasons. As a teacher, I want to see people become better designers."



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From Milan to Manila

SHE'S A STYLISH BAG DEsigner who's striking enough to model her own creations, but Amina Aranaz-Alunan will be the first to tell people, especially potential designers, that running a business isn't as glamorous as it seems.

"I'm all dressed up today because I'm meeting several people," she says. "But you should see me while I rummage through materials at the factory. There's nothing glamorous about it. On the contrary, the place where I work is quite hot and dusty."

Whenever she goes to the factory, which is almost everyday, Aranaz-Alunan has to go back home, take a shower and change before she heads to another engagement. It was worse when she was pregnant with her first child.

"My sales suffered then," she says. "But working directly with people who have been with the family for quite a number of years has sustained me. Their passion for work can be quite admirable and inspiring."

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AMINA Aranaz-Alunan

Love for one's work and the passion to sustain it (including the often-neglected aspect of running a business) will be among the many tenets Aranaz-Alunan and fellow Istituto Marangoni graduate Loralee Baron aim to impart to students as they open the School of Fashion and Art (for inquiries e-mail sofamanila@gmail.com) in the heart of Makati's Central Business District next month.

The two women have been dreaming of putting up a fashion school with a "European approach applicable to the Asian market" ever since they got back from Italy four years ago.

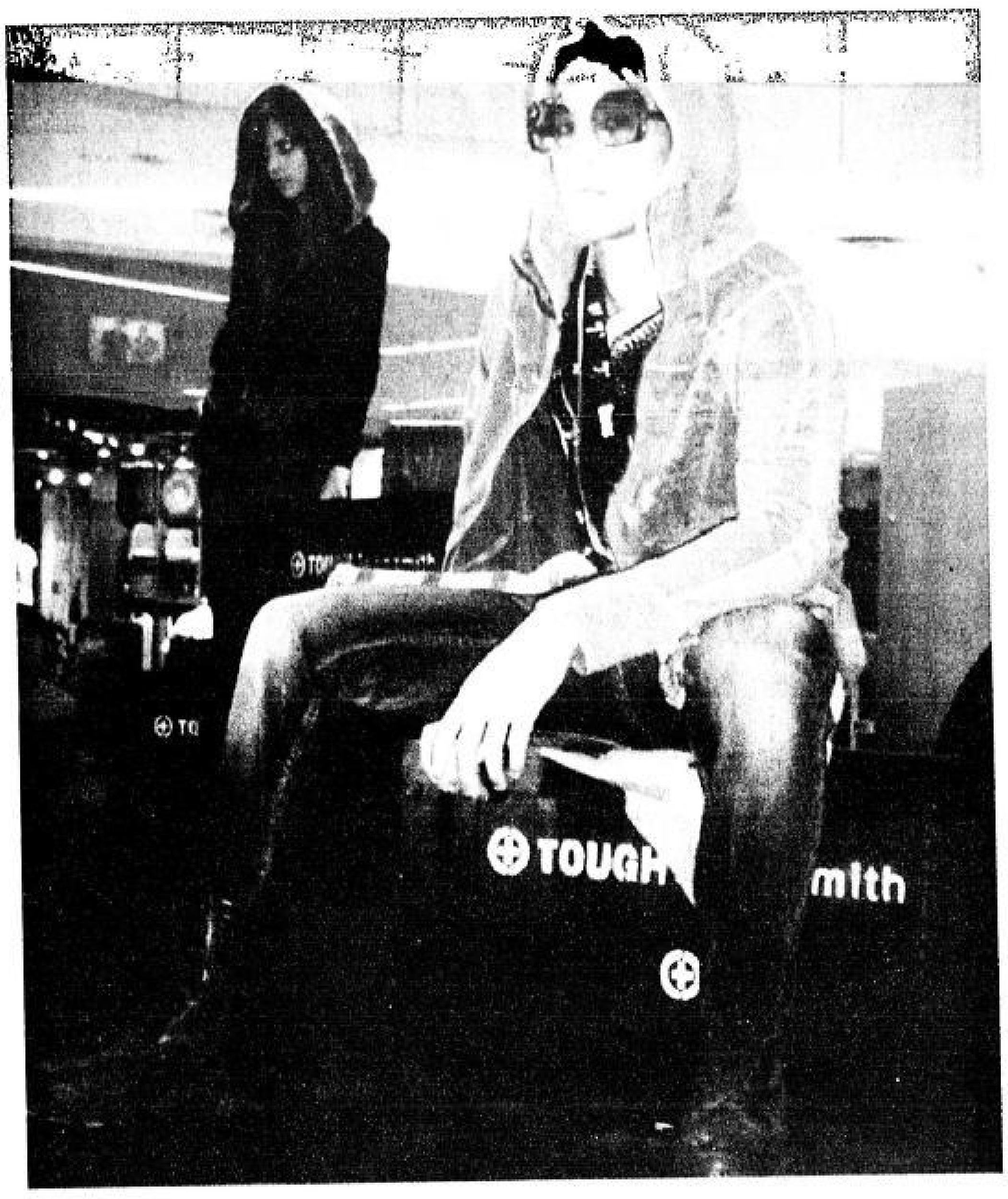
"I've met people who want to study abroad," says Aranaz-Alunan. "But most of them can't afford it, while others don't have the time to spend a year abroad. We really need a fashion school that offers affordable education based on international standards."

Inspired by the curricula of the best fashion schools in the world, including, of course, the two women's alma mater in Milan, the school will be offering several certificate courses alongside an actual bachelor's degree program in fashion design.

They're working in partnership with Lex Ledesma of the One School, and are now busy finalizing negotiations with teachers who are also industry practitioners.

"No doubt traveling enriches the mind, but studying abroad isn't the only path to success," says Aranaz-Alunan. "Our school makes fashion education accessible for would-be designers and merchandisers. In my time, there were no fashion schools to turn to, thus the need to go abroad. Now foreign fashion education is no longer a necessity but a bonus."

AYV



Tough call

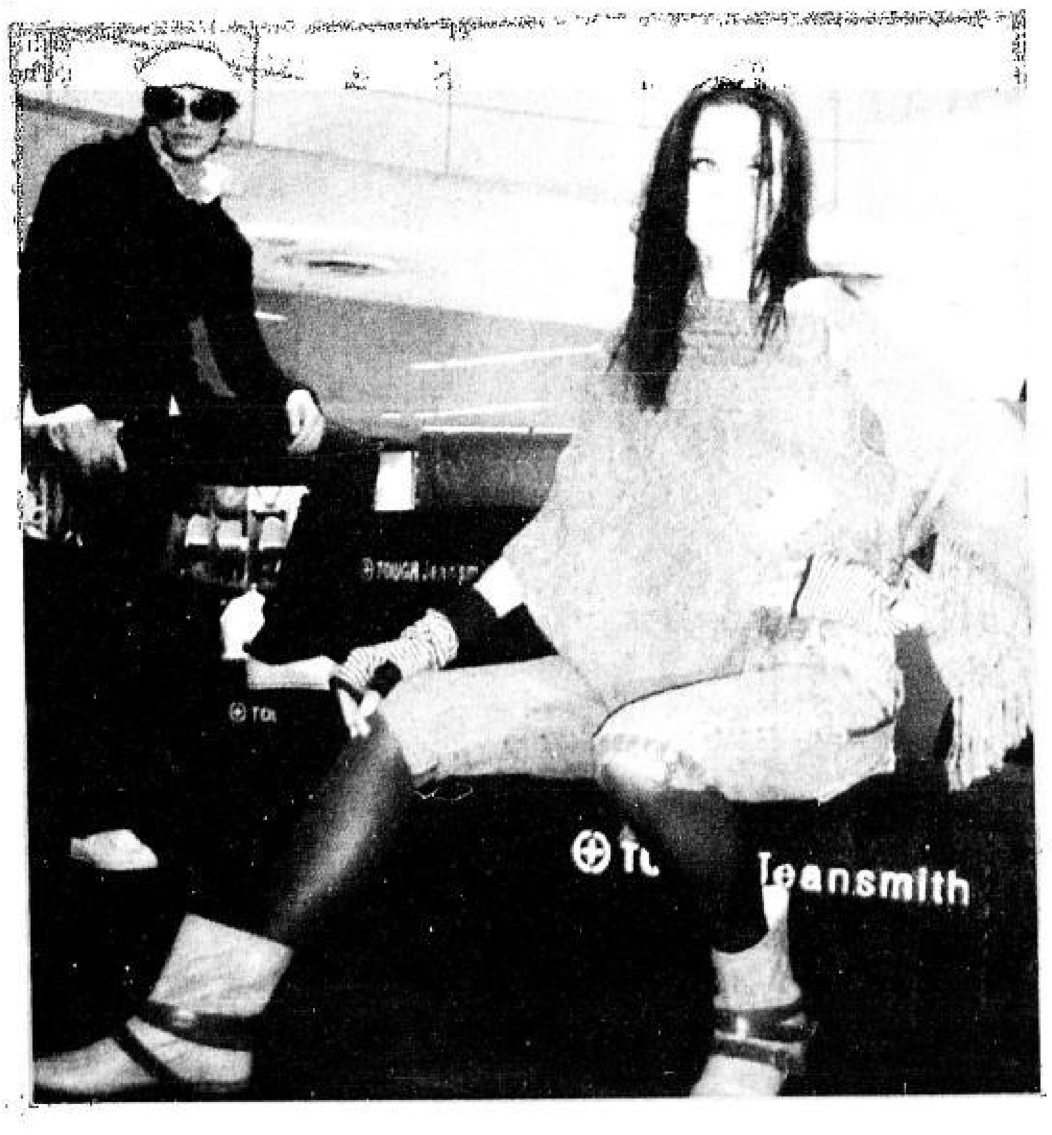
From page D1

appeal is Tough's latest collection of "Mao Jeans"—which are inspired by the famous (or infamous) Chairman Mao Zedong of the Communist Party of China. The pockets show embroidered designs taken from the ideas and artwork that proliferated during the time of Chairman Mao.

Tough Jeansmith's collections accentuate a sporty and sexy vibe, yet a sophisticated touch and gets noticed in the extremely competitive world market due to our unique finishing and treatment developments. Good news for us—we can now get a first-hand peek at this progressive brand in its first Manila store that opened at TriNoma Mall.

I had the pleasure of interviewing the owner George Wong, and found out more about the interesting vision behind the brand, a lot of which reflected his own personal beliefs. In his words, "Fight for your freedom. Life is too short, tomorrow will worry for itself."

TOUGH'S latest collection seen during its Singapore opening



GEORGE Wong

The Wong way

Tough Jeansmith's creator talks to INQUIRER Fashion

WHAT IS TOUGH JEANSMITH'S design philosophy?

I am Chinese and I do everything from my Chinese standpoint and viewpoint.

I like do-it-yourself things. Every time I create products or design our interiors, I source my own materials. When I make prototypes, I choose the buttons, the paint or finish of the jeans and then send them to the factory to modify them.

I don't like to buy materials from traditional markets but from industrial shops, like metal suppliers. This is the way I like to source, not from traditional shops but from unexpected ones.

This has always been my training, to always use different and unexpected materials. I like to be different. Even when I cut my jeans or I put some sort of coating on the denim, sometimes the factory cannot follow my requirements because the style is not traditional and sometimes intricate.

This is the poor man's way (laughs). When I started I had very little resource that I had to find creative ways to make my products different.

Your brand started as a bag company, right?

Yes, we're still known for our bags and every season I incorporate bag details into the designs of my jackets. It's funny, although it's not so commercial, it still sells because the design is complicated and has lots of details like a Christmas tree. Not everybody likes that, but it has a strong character and that's the signature of Tough.

Since I spend most of my time in bag design, you can see a lot of details like metals, buckles and other hardware.

Why did you name your brand Tough?

When we were starting out, there were many tough situations that we encountered, hence the name.

In the beginning a lot of people [tried to] persuade me to make my products more commercial but I am not satisfied with the mass market. When you take out the label of other jeans, even the big jeans company, they almost have the same look.

My belief is "to live or to die." When I make my decision I think of that, because with this extreme belief, only then you can make something special.

What new trend/styles have you cooked up for this season?

The military look, but with a special twist to it.

During our design process, the trend of the outside world is not our main concern. Sometimes in the office my design team and I will close the doors and shut down the computers and make things that we like. The mainstream is not my concern. I would rather choose my way instead. That's why you will see that the core collection of Tough is not so similar to the mainstream brands.

Where do you see your brand in the next five years?

Regionally speaking, Tough Jeansmith will be successful especially in Pacific, South East Asia, China, maybe even in Europe and the States. I think we will be accepted in those markets.

I'm happy not in terms of money. I'm Chinese, everybody thinks Chinese are just workers in a sweatshop or copy brands. I'm proud that I have my own label and my ideas and designs. We are the entire same world, black, white, yellow; we have similar aesthetic experiences, so I know they will accept my products.

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Save even more at SM's back-to-back sale

Catch the savings, take home the great buys! All yours to grab at up to half-price discounts during the 3-DAY SALE on the weekend of August 17, 18 and 19 at SM City Sta. Mesa and SM Supercenter Valenzuela.

SM City Sta. Mesa and SM Supercenter Valenzuela are featured in the mallwide 3-DAY SALE on August 17, 18 and 19.

Both malls are overflowing with discounted merchandise: trendy apparel for women, men, teens and children; lots of toys for boys and girls; fashion accessories and watches galore; home furnishings; big and small appliances; electronic gadgets; computer hardware and software; fresh fruits and vegetables, packaged groceries, and many more Supermarket and Hypermarket goodies!

10 fun prizes to be raffled off

Each mall will be giving away 5 units of NEXT BASE portable DVD players with 7-inch color monitor (1 unit per winner). Draw schedules and venues will be posted in both malls.

A ₱500 single-receipt purchase from any participating mall establishment (food or non-food) qualifies a shopper to get one raffle coupon.

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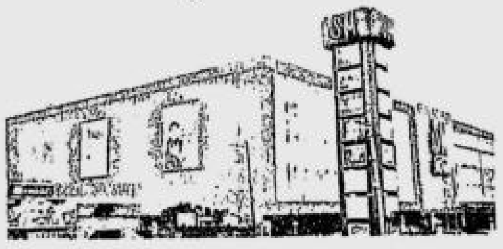
Neighborhood malling in SM City Sta. Mesa



Located in central Manila, SM City Sta. Mesa has become the "neighborhood mall" of mid-town shoppers residing in the crossroads of Manila, San Juan and Quezon City.

The mall is also accessible to LRT-2 commuters as it straddles the corners of Aurora Boulevard and G. Araneta Avenue.

Anchor stores include SM Department Store, SM Supermarket and SM Appliance Center. Restaurants, a wide variety of shops and amusement areas abound in the mall.

Convenience malling at SM Supercenter Valenzuela

Strategically located in Valenzuela's business and commercial hub along McArthur Highway, SM Supercenter is the convenient one-stop destination for more shopping, more eat-out options and more fun for the whole family.

Aside from SM Hypermarket, SM Supercenter Valenzuela is home to retail and service vendors that meet the malling needs of the city and neighboring communities.

Meet to Eat at SM FOODCOURT

Take a break from your shopping and "meet to eat" with family or friends at SM Foodcourt.

Spicy cuisine to exotic favorites, juicy burgers to yummy pizza, deliciously hot noodle concoctions to succulent mixed veggies... SM Foodcourt has all the appetizing surprises waiting to be re-discovered and enjoyed.

Best of all, you can win in the NEXT BASE portable DVD player raffle with every ₱150 single or accumulated Foodcourt purchase . You can also win in the Soup-er Prizes promo: iPods, tickets to the Black Eyed Peas concert in Bangkok, Thailand and many more!

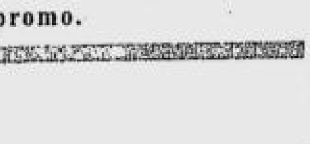
SM CINEMA

Experience an enjoyable time in between your shopping. Watch the latest movies at SM Cinema in airconditioned comfort.

Wide screens, superior audio systems and luxurious seating make SM Cinema the ideal entertainment destination.

Buy tickets to your favorite flick at least one hour before showtime. Every single purchase of four cinema tickets entitles you to join in the DVD player raffle promo.

Amusement Centers



Every single purchase of ride or video game tokens worth ₱100 during the 3-DAY SALE also gives you the chance to win in the portable DVD player raffle promo.

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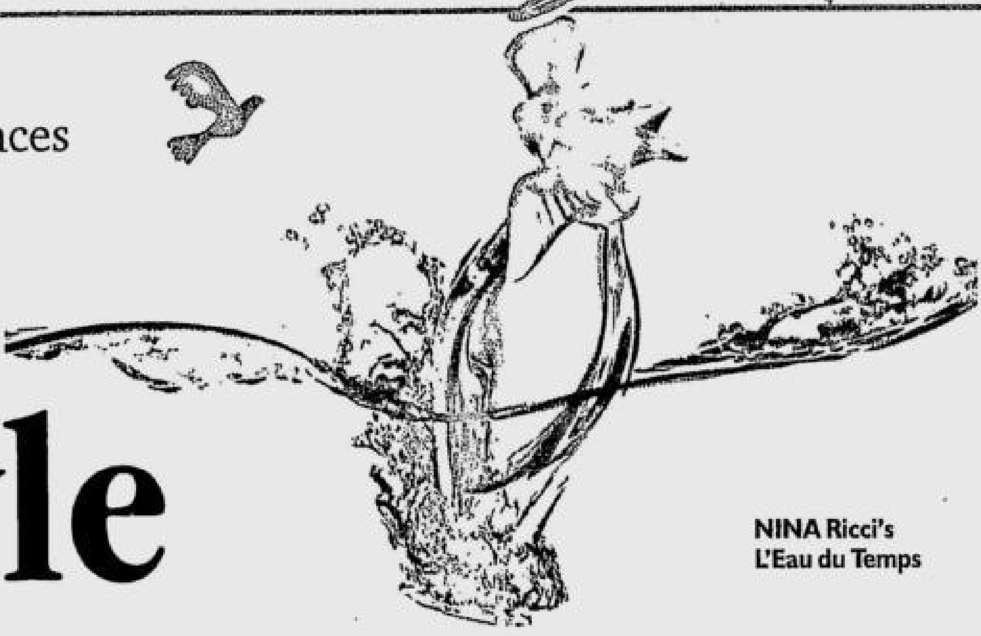
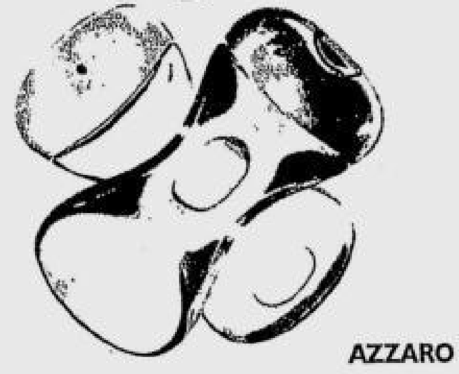
Here's a quick rundown of new-in-the-market fragrances

Scents *of* style



NINA Ricci's L'Eau du Temps



AZZARO

Dolce & Gabbana's Light Blue Pour Homme

DOLCE & GABBANA FRAGRANCES, CREators of Light Blue Pour Femme, unveil a male counterpart of the much loved scent. Inspired by the sensual aromas of the Mediterranean, Light Blue Pour Homme is a woody spicy fragrance which combines the clean citrusy notes of Sicilian Mandarin with exotic hints of Szechuan pepper and calming essences of rosewood, in a sophisticated masculine accord evenly tempered with the earthy character of oak moss.

Exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corp., Dolce & Gabanna's Light Blue Pour Homme is available in leading department stores nationwide.

Anna Sui's Dolly Girl on the Beach

The scent is sexy and sparkling, bathing the senses in exotic fruits such as mandarin, dewy marigold, peach nectar, lemon, cassis, apple and bergamot on the first note. The fragrance graduates into floral accents of freesia, lotus blossoms and rose petals. The sensual finish is a composition of blonde woods, amber crystals and powdery musk.

Like other Anna Sui fragrances, it comes in an opaque flacon with a dolly head shape. Exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corp.

Nina Ricci's L'Eau du Temps

Nina Ricci's L'Eau du Temps is a new limited-edition fragrance that sparkles with refreshing citrus and spice—a fruit cocktail of mandarin orange, bergamot, black currant, pink peppercorn and coriander. The scent is further conveyed by a delicate sensual bouquet of gardenia, carnation, jasmine, *ylang-ylang* and tuberose, and gently warmed by an amber and musk trail.

Exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corp. and available in all leading department stores nationwide.

Azzaro Now

Azzaro Now launches new fragrances for him and for her from Paris.

The fragrances' roundness comes from a touch of ambery rum and white tea. Exalting clear woods deploy their powerful sensuality with the sensitivity of rosewood. White flowers (bergamot, tiare and jasmine) veiled with an aquatic touch respond to it.

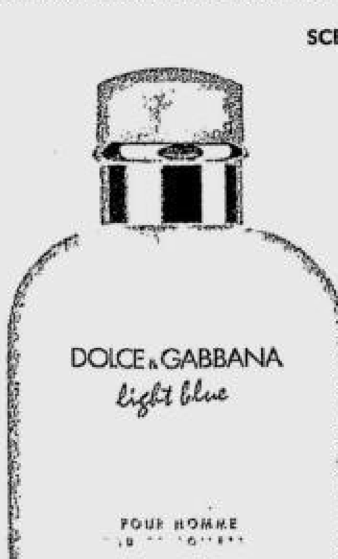
Available at SM, Landmark and other leading department stores.

Sensual Fresh

Sensual Fresh is the latest feminine scent from Fuller Life Direct Selling Philippines Inc. (formerly known as Sara Lee Direct Selling Philippines Inc.).

Sensual Fresh captures a woman's sensuality with its top notes of crisp leafy greens perfectly blended with middle notes of jasmine, rose and *ylang-ylang* petals. Warm base notes of musk and sandalwood bring

SCENTS/E3



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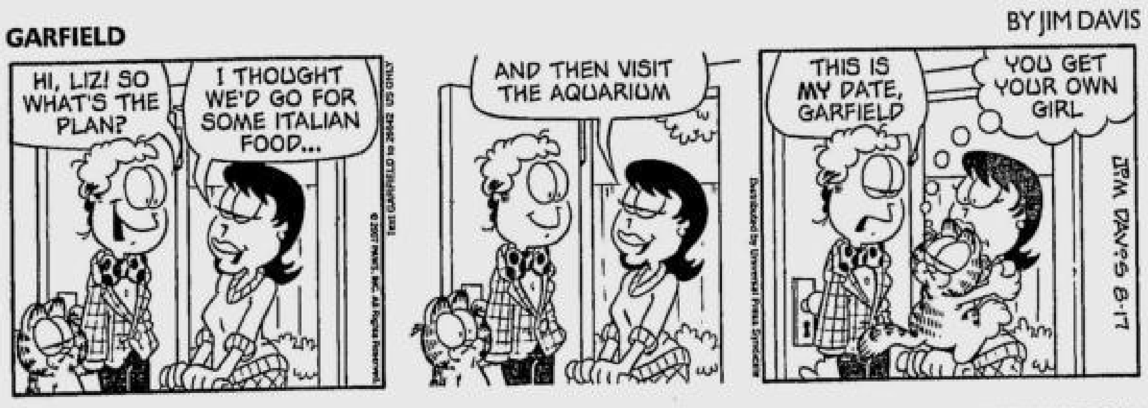
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


HI, LIZ! SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?
I THOUGHT WE'D GO FOR SOME ITALIAN FOOD...
AND THEN VISIT THE AQUARIUM
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YOU GET YOUR OWN GIRL
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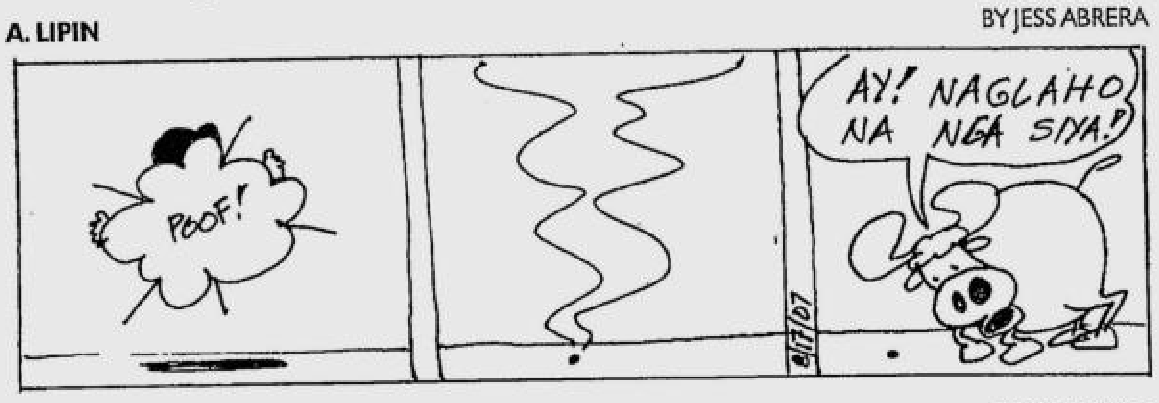
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA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AY! NAGLAHO NA NGA SIYA!
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BABY BLUES

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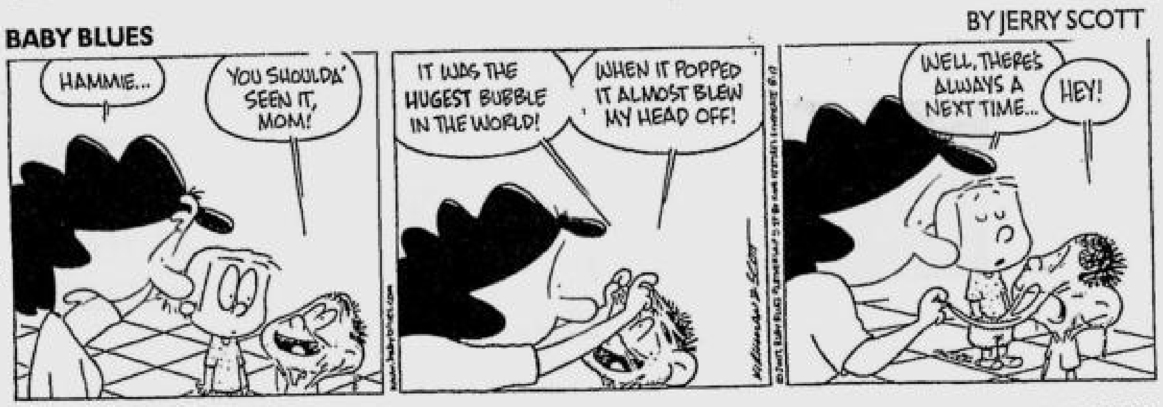
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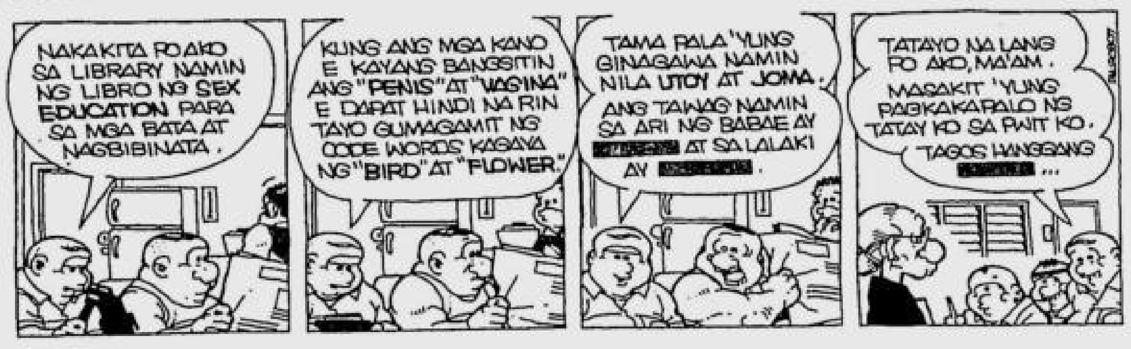
YOU SHOULDA' SEEN IT, MOM!
IT WAS THE HUGEST BUBBLE IN THE WORLD!
WHEN IT POPPED IT ALMOST BLEW MY HEAD OFF!
WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS A NEXT TIME...
HEY!

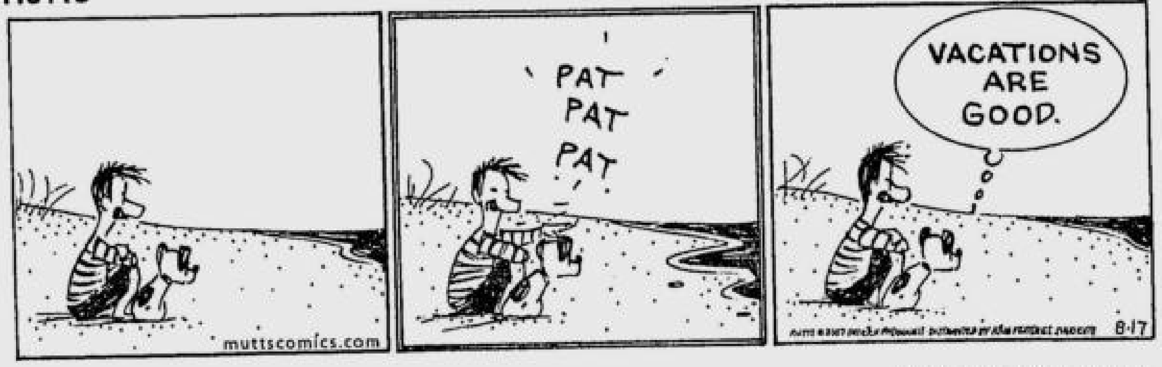
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


NAKAKITA PO AKO SA LIBRARY NAMIN NG LIBRO NG SEX EDUCATION PARA SA MGA BATA AT NAGBIBINATA.
KUNG ANG MGA KANO E KAYANG BANGGITIN ANG "PENIS" AT "VAGINA" E DAPAT HINDI NA RIN TAYO GUMAGAMIT NG CODE WORDS KAGAYA NG "BIRD" AT "FLOWER."
TAMA PALA 'YUNG GINAGAWA NAMIN NILA UTOY AT JOMA.
ANG TAWAG NAMIN SA ARI NG BABAE AY [redacted] AT SA LALAKI AY [redacted].
TATAYO NA LANG PO AKO, MA'AM.
MASAKIT 'YUNG PAGKAKAPALO NG TATAY KO SA PWIT KO.
TAGOS HANGGANG [redacted]...

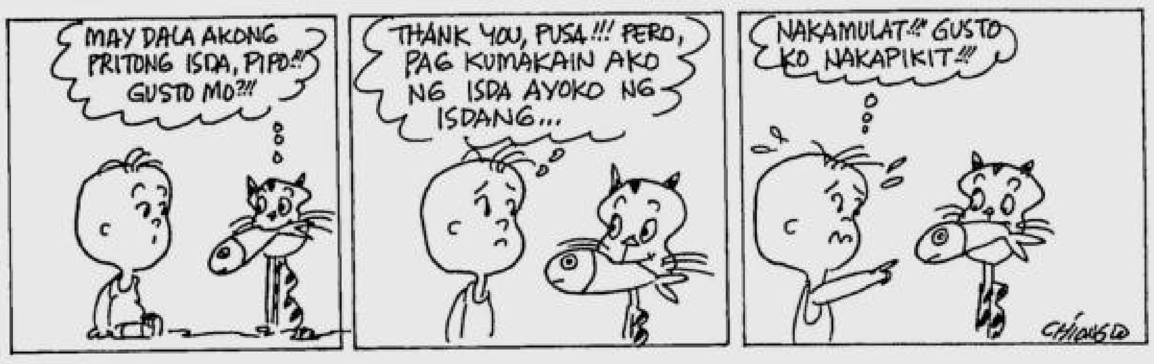
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


PAT PAT PAT
VACATIONS ARE GOOD.
muttscomics.com
8·17

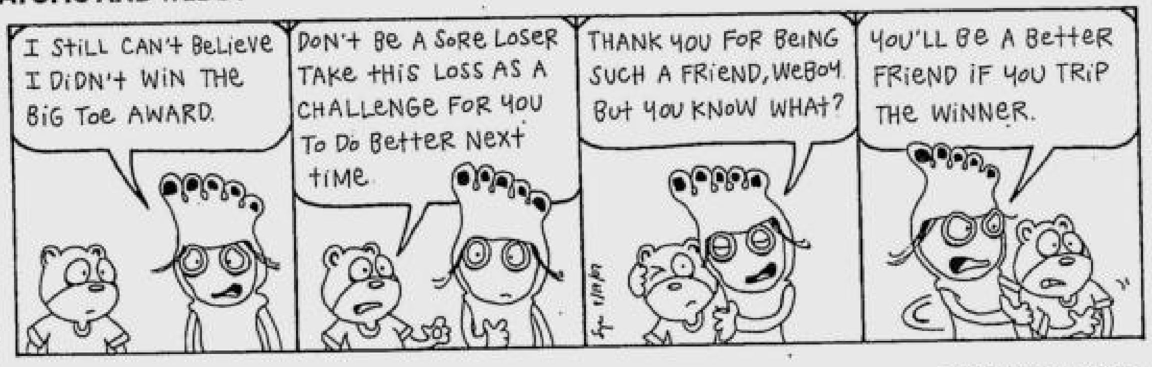
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


MAY DALA AKONG PRITONG ISDA, PIPO!!! GUSTO MO?!!
THANK YOU, PUSA!!! PERO, PAG KUMAKAIN AKO NG ISDA AYOKO NG ISDANG...
NAKAMULAT!!! GUSTO KO NAKAPIKIT!!!
CHIONGLO

ATOMO AND WEBOY

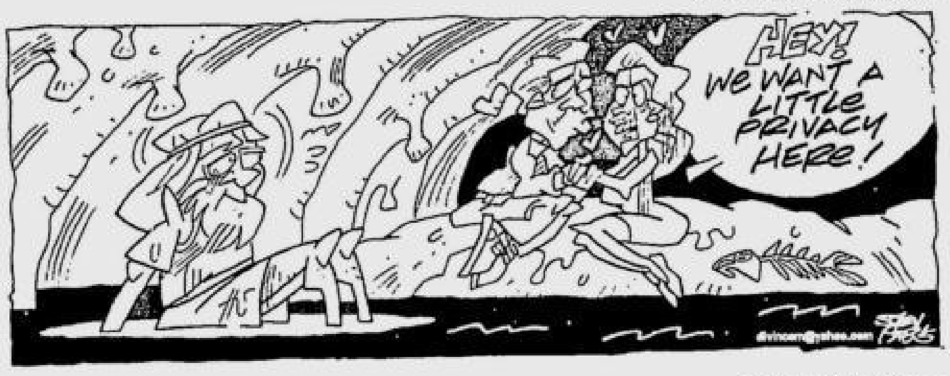
BY LYRA GARCELLANO


I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE I DIDN'T WIN THE BIG TOE AWARD.
DON'T BE A SORE LOSER TAKE THIS LOSS AS A CHALLENGE FOR YOU TO DO BETTER NEXT TIME.
THANK YOU FOR BEING SUCH A FRIEND, WEBOY. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT?
YOU'LL BE A BETTER FRIEND IF YOU TRIP THE WINNER.

DIVINE COMEDY

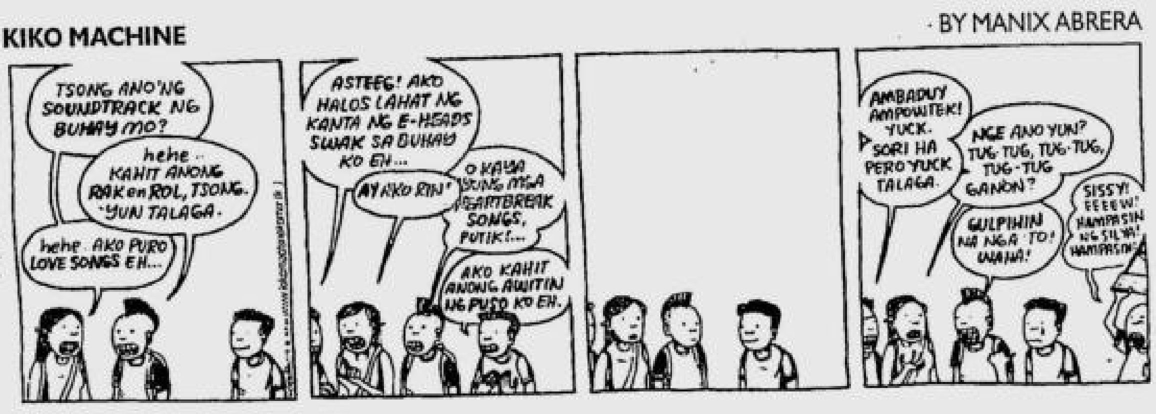
BY STEVEN PABALINAS

NAGULAT
SI JONAH
SA KANYANG
NATAGPUAN
SA LOOB NG
TIYAN NG
BALYENA
....


HEY! WE WANT A LITTLE PRIVACY HERE!

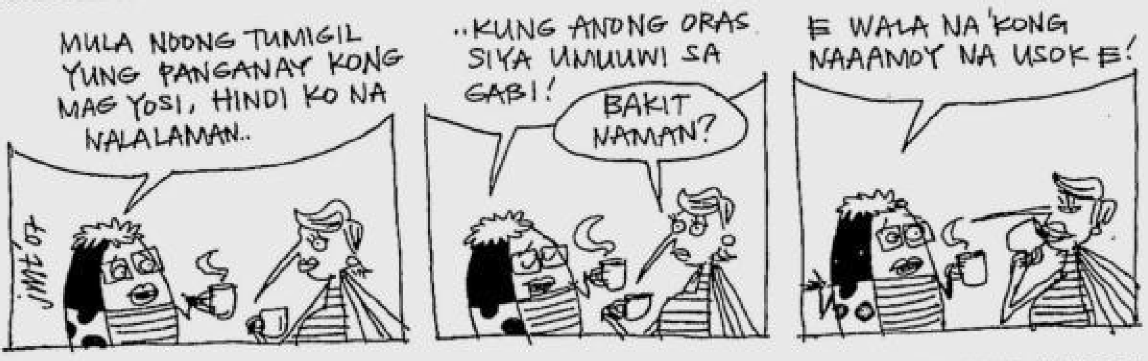
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


TSONG ANO'NG SOUNDTRACK NG BUHAY MO?
hehe.. KAHIT ANONG RAK en ROL, TSONG. 'YUN TALAGA.
hehe. AKO PURO LOVE SONGS EH...
ASTEEG! AKO HALOS LAHAT NG KANTA NG E-HEADS SWAK SA BUHAY KO EH...
AY AKO RIN'
O KAYA 'YUNG MGA HEARTBREAK SONGS, PUTIK!...
AKO KAHIT ANONG AWITIN NG PUSO KO EH.
AMBADUY AMPOWTEK! YUCK. SORI HA PERO YUCK TALAGA.
NGE ANO YUN? TUG-TUG, TUG-TUG, TUG-TUG GANON?
GULPIHIN NA NGA 'TO! WAHA!
SISSY! EEEEW! HAMPASIN NG SILYA! HAMPASIN!

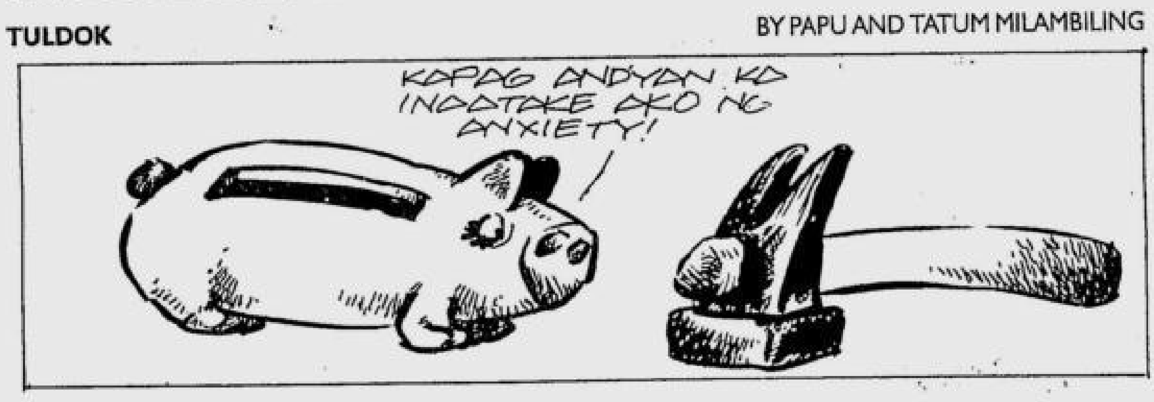
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


MULA NOONG TUMIGIL YUNG PANGANAY KONG MAG YOSI, HINDI KO NA NALALAMAN..
..KUNG ANONG ORAS SIYA UMUUWI SA GABI!
BAKIT NAMAN?
E WALA NA 'KONG NAAAMOY NA USOK E!

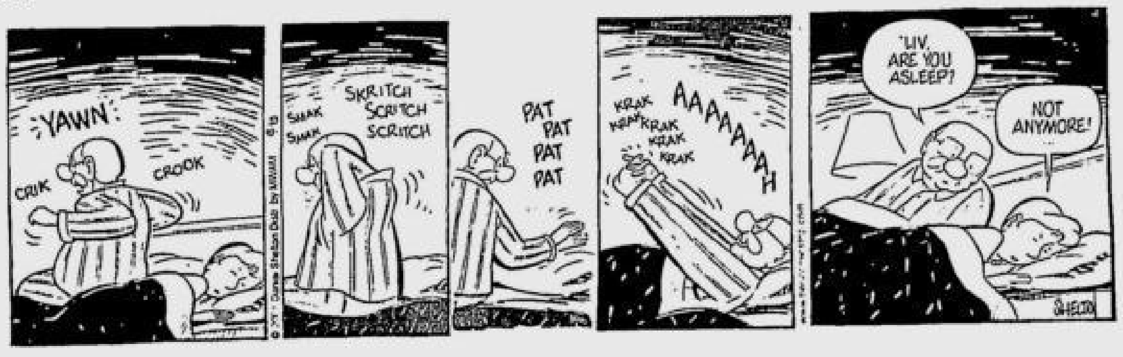
TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


KAPAG ANDYAN KA INAATAKE AKO NG ANXIETY!

BEN

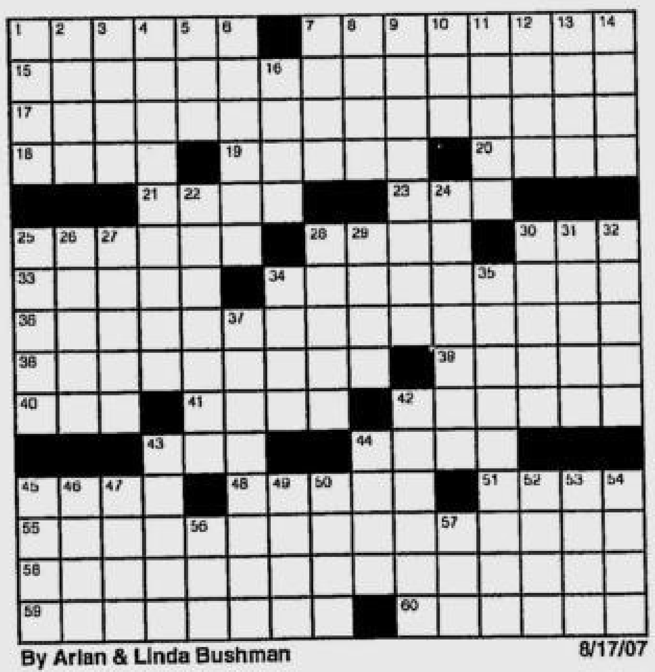
BY DANIEL SHELTON


YAWN
CRIK
CROOK
SWAK SWAK
SKRITCH SCRITCH SCRITCH
PAT PAT PAT PAT
KRAK KRAK KRAK KRAK KRAK
AAAAAAAAH
'LIV, ARE YOU ASLEEP?
NOT ANYMORE!
SHELTON

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Like the Lone Ranger
7 Ballpark figure
15 Hidden agendas
17 Wordless disapproval
18 Organ knob
19 Fire truck equipment
20 Art Deco artist
21 Big plant
23 Chinese menu general
25 Boo shouter
28 Cast about
30 Strike out
33 Intangible emanations
34 Free-trial PC programs
36 Auto racing and golf, e.g.
38 Some hardwoods
39 Stream denizen
40 Nabokov novel
41 Jokester
42 Cheapskates
43 Dog show letters
44 Special interest groups
45 First word of "Jabberwocky"
48 Rabbits' kin
51 CIS predecessor
55 Treading stealthily
58 Judge's command
59 On-again-off-again
60 Optometrical concerns


1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

By Arlan & Linda Bushman
Chicago, IL

8/17/07

DOWN

1 Rumple
2 Made a touchdown
3 Normandy town
4 Not lose sight (of)
5 Marine flier
6 Hem and haw
7 Stumbles
8 "Peter Pan" pirate
9 Kitchen devices
10 "Addams Family" cousin
11 Outdated copier, for short
12 Profess
13 Pitched object?
14 Noble Italian family
16 Great Plains tribe
22 Replenish supplies
24 Doubting Thomas
25 Skater Cohen
26 Venus offspring
27 Tropical palm
28 Did a farrier's task
29 Corn servings
30 __ Islands (of Denmark)
31 Pianist Schnabel
32 Wasp homes
34 Recipe direction
35 Tries to influence
37 Spider or tick
42 Delicate hue
43 "Jeopardy!" contestant
44 Phnom __
45 Ark units
46 Distort
47 Ray of "Pat and Mike"
49 Hindu god of fire
50 Coll. mil. grp.
52 Erwin and Gilliam
53 Miffed
54 Soaks to soften
56 Author Levin
57 Frozen surface

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

E	T	H	I	C	■	A	S	P	S	■	A	L	E	C
M	O	O	L	A	■	P	E	A	T	■	G	A	L	L
I	F	A	L	L	T	H	E	W	O	R	L	D	S	A
T	U	X	■	L	A	I	R	■	N	E	E	D	E	D
■	■	■	B	I	R	D	■	M	E	E	T	■	■	■
G	A	L	O	O	T	■	C	O	A	L	■	S	O	S
I	C	E	U	P	■	P	R	I	G	■	O	U	C	H
S	T	A	G	E	W	H	E	R	E	I	S	T	H	E
M	E	S	H	■	H	O	P	E	■	S	A	R	E	E
O	D	E	■	B	A	N	E	■	B	O	G	A	R	T
■	■	■	T	O	T	E	■	M	A	L	E	■	■	■
S	T	E	R	N	S	■	S	A	L	A	■	E	A	U
A	U	D	I	E	N	C	E	S	I	T	T	I	N	G
U	N	D	O	■	E	U	R	O	■	E	A	R	T	H
L	A	Y	S	■	W	E	A	N	■	D	R	E	S	S

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8/17/07

HOROSCOPE

YOU BORN TODAY: You're extremely talented and versatile. You can do many things very well. You don't back down from challenges and arguments, yet you do not seek the limelight. (It will find you!) You're private about your personal life. At home, you're relaxed and earthy. In the year ahead, you will study or learn something very valuable to you.

Birthdate of: Sean Penn, actor; Robert De Niro, actor; Mae West, actress.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): You might have an opportunity to teach young minds today. Romantic partners will have serious, frank discussions about how to improve things.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Discussions about differing domestic values or how to handle shared property, or dealings with wills, inheritances, debt and taxes can be profitable today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): You have the mind of a sleuth or a detective today. You see the subtext of everything. You'll be able to spot a phony a mile away. You have X-ray vision!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Trust your moneymaking ideas and your financial intuition today. You might see how to take something that already exists and then change it so that you make a profit.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Discussions with others are frank and to the point. You're not afraid to ask questions. You won't hesitate to probe for whatever you're looking for.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): This is a wonderful day for any kind of research into any subject. If you need to know secrets or want to know the back story of something or someone, you'll find it!

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): You might encounter somebody today who has a great influence on you, or perhaps this person says or does something that is a bit mind-blowing. Whatever it is, it's memorable!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You're very decisive and to the point when talking to bosses, parents and VIPs today. You'll cut through the silliness to get right down to the nitty-gritty.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Someone might act like a teacher for you today. You're very impressed with ideas about religion, politics or other subjects. You can learn something profound.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): If you want to get to the bottom of secrets about shared property, inheritances or your partner's income, this is the day to do it. Look under every rock!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): This is a good time to sit down with partners and close friends and put your cards on the table. Come clean about anything that disturbs you. (Be honest, kind and tactful.)

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You've got great ideas about how to introduce reform and make improvements at work or perhaps to your health. Don't hesitate to act on this impulse.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

	6		2	3				
		3			7			1
		5				9	6	
	9							4
1				7				5
2							9	
	1	9				4		
8			6			5		
				2	3		8	

Difficulty Level ★★★★

8/17

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HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

5	6	3	7	8	2	9	1	4
1	7	9	5	4	3	2	6	8
2	4	8	1	6	9	7	5	3
9	1	6	4	7	8	3	2	5
3	8	7	2	9	5	6	4	1
4	5	2	3	1	6	8	9	7
6	2	1	8	5	7	4	3	9
7	3	5	9	2	4	1	8	6
8	9	4	6	3	1	5	7	2

Difficulty Level ★★★

Scents of style

From page E1

out your confident, sexy side.

Hugo Boss

Hugo Boss features Femme by Boss for women and Boss Selection for men.

Femme by Boss is a luscious and fruity blend of tangerine and black currant on the first whiff, segueing to delicate and sensual white flowers—stephanotis, oriental lily and Bulgarian rose petals, and trailing off with a creamy musk-like base of apricot skin, satin wood and soft amber.

Boss Selection is pure masculine sophistication. The fragrance is a cocktail of grapefruit and mandarin combined with spicy pink peppercorn and laced with cedar leaf, cedar wood, patchouli, vetiver and musk.

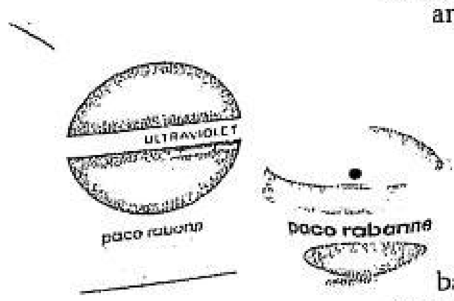
Femme by Boss and Boss Selection are exclusively distributed by Rustan Marketing Corp. and available in leading department stores nationwide.

Paco Rabanne's Ultraviolet Summer Pop

The spirit of pop and the style of Rabanne come together in Ultraviolet Summer Pop, a limited-edition fragrance.

Ultraviolet Summer Pop for Woman is a light, mouth-watering accord with an effervescent sensuality. Its fruity floral scent is a combination of pink grapefruit, pink pepper, coral flower and osmanthus flower tempered with a base of vanilla and sandalwood.

Ultraviolet Man Summer Pop is a woody accord of cedar wood and ambergris spiked with moss crystals, green pimento and pink grapefruit, imparting an icy, luminous, and intense sensation.



PACO Rabanne

Salvaggio Fire

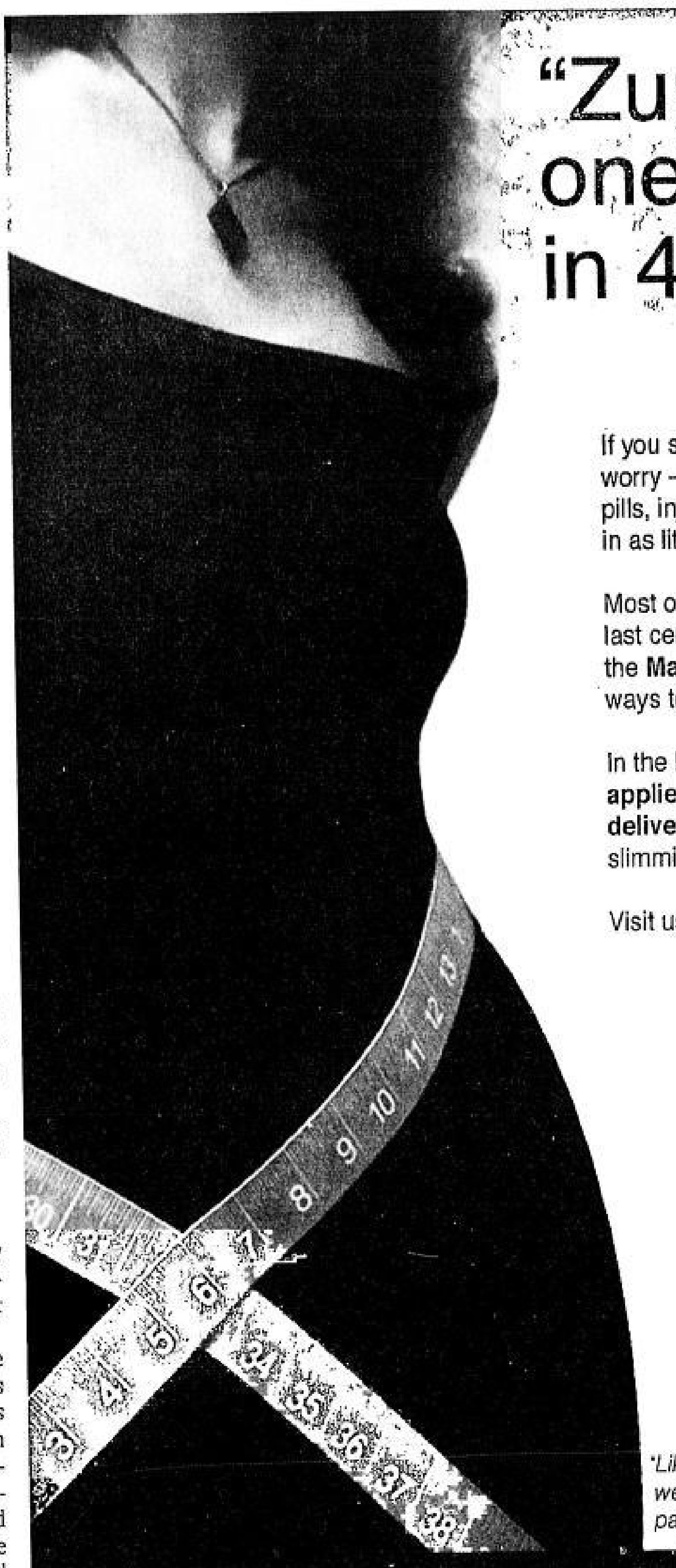
New masculine scent Salvaggio Fire from Fuller Life Direct Selling Philippines Inc. captures one's sexy side with its top notes of tangerine, lemon, grapefruit, bergamot and aldehydes, with middle notes of rose, geranium and hyacinth. Its base notes are labdanum, vanilla, fir balsam, musk and honey.

The fragrance comes in Salvaggio Fire Pocket Edition and Salvaggio Fire Eau de Toilette.

Labworks

Piolo Pascual launches a new line of men's fragrance, Labworks, exclusively available at Watsons.

The line features Eau de Cologne, a collection of citrus and sandalwood essences made from European oils; and Eau de Toilette, a medley of aromatic spice and freesia. Also available are body sprays and colognes in forest scents, herbal musk, basil cedarwood and spicy citrus fragrance.



"Zunic took one inch off my waist in 45 minutes!"

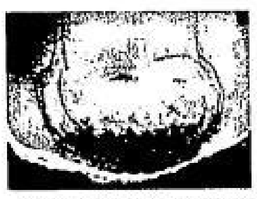
–*"Authentic customer statement, 27 March 2007*"
(not a paid endorsement)

If you suddenly discover that you've become one size too large, don't worry – that's something that we can fix immediately, without dieting, pills, injections, exercise or surgery. In fact, we've been known to do it in as little as 45 minutes. (Ask any of our clients.)

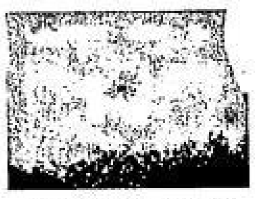
Most of the slimming technology still used today was pioneered in the last century. This was a long time before research groups at **NASA** and the **Mayo Clinic** discovered newer, more technologically-advanced ways to remove unwanted fat quickly, easily, and safely.

In the Philippines, **only Zunic has the methodology that actively applies these new technologies, and the proven expertise to deliver results.** So that what could take weeks or months using other slimming methods, happens quicker and more comfortably at **Zunic.**

Visit us today for a free consultation.



BEFORE TREATMENT



AFTER 45 MINUTES

Body by
Zunic
slimming & body sculpting

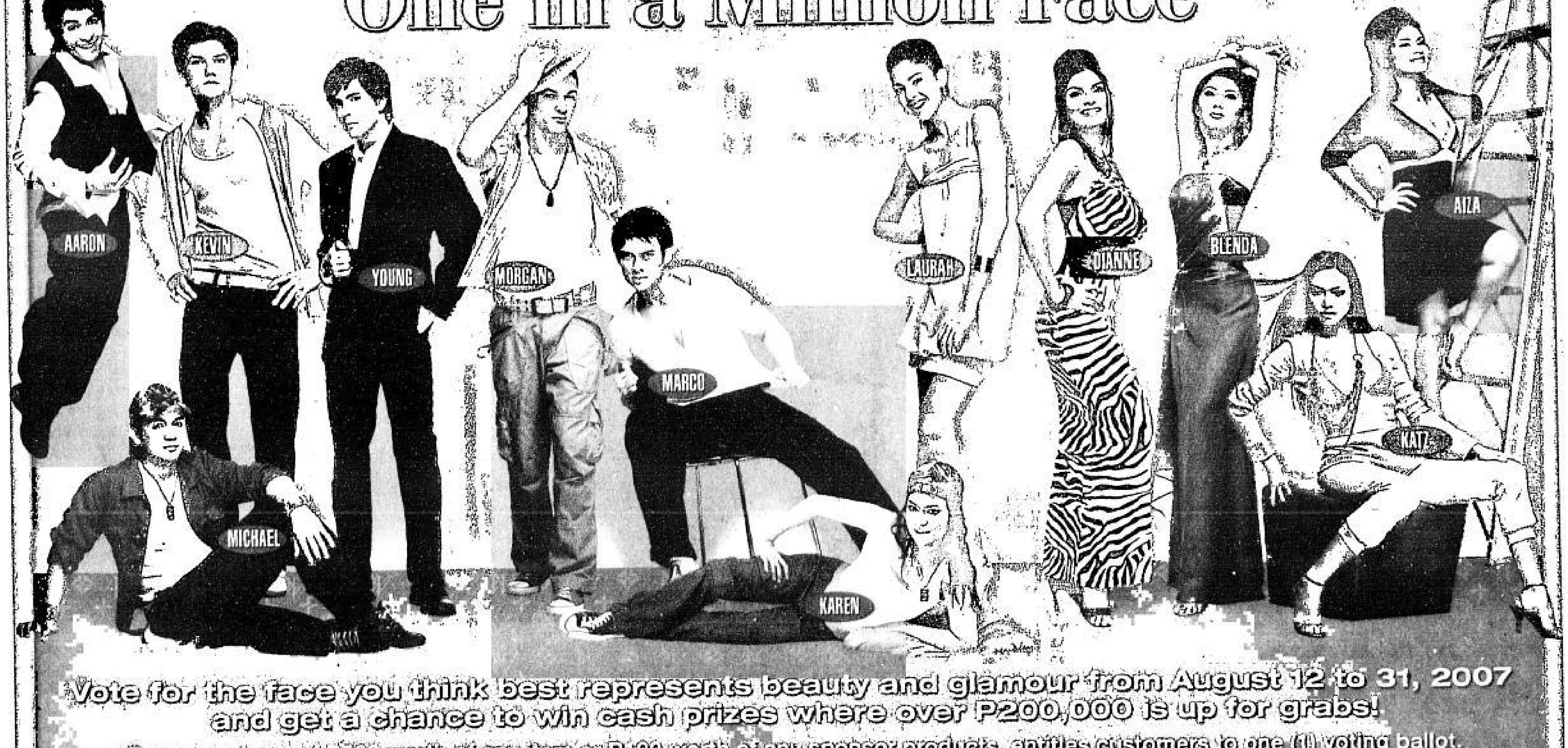
**Like most Zunic clients, this particular client values her privacy, and we completely respect that. Her comments, however, may be viewed on page 5 of the Comment Journal at the lobby of our Makati Avenue branch.*

MAKATI: **752-0600 • 752-0601** Upper G/F Somerset Olympia, 7912 Makati Ave., Makati City
QUEZON CITY: **374-0600 • 374-0800** G/F New Grange Building, 32 Timog Ave., Quezon City

SHOPWISE Face to Face

Who will be the next face of Shopwise in the search for

One in a Million Face



Vote for the face you think best represents beauty and glamour from August 12 to 31, 2007 and get a chance to win cash prizes where over P200,000 is up for grabs!

Every purchase of P500 worth of any item or P100 worth of any sponsor products, entitles customers to one (1) voting ballot.

The top 8 candidates (four males and four females) with the most number of votes at the end of the promo period are automatically qualified as finalists in the Grand Showdown on September 12, 2007 at the Carousel Court of Festival Supermall, Alabang. A total of One Million pesos awaits the lucky pair.

SUNSILK Olay Pond's Palmolive Astring-O-sol Modess Nivea Anlene Coca-Cola

SHOPWISE
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ALABANG Left Wing, Festival Supermall Filinvest • **MAKATI** Corner of Pasong Tamo and Vito Cruz Extension • **LIBIS** 150 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Bagumbayan Q.C. • **ARANETA** Gen. Aguinaldo Ave. corner Gen. McArthur Ave., Araneta Center • **ANTIPOLO** M.L. Quezon corner Circumferential Road, Brgy., San Roque • **MANILA** Harrison Plaza Mall, A. Mabini and M. Adriatico Sts., Malate, Manila • **SUCAT** Sucat Road corner Soreena Ave., Parañaque City

GOINGS ON

Urban bazaar set Aug. 18-19

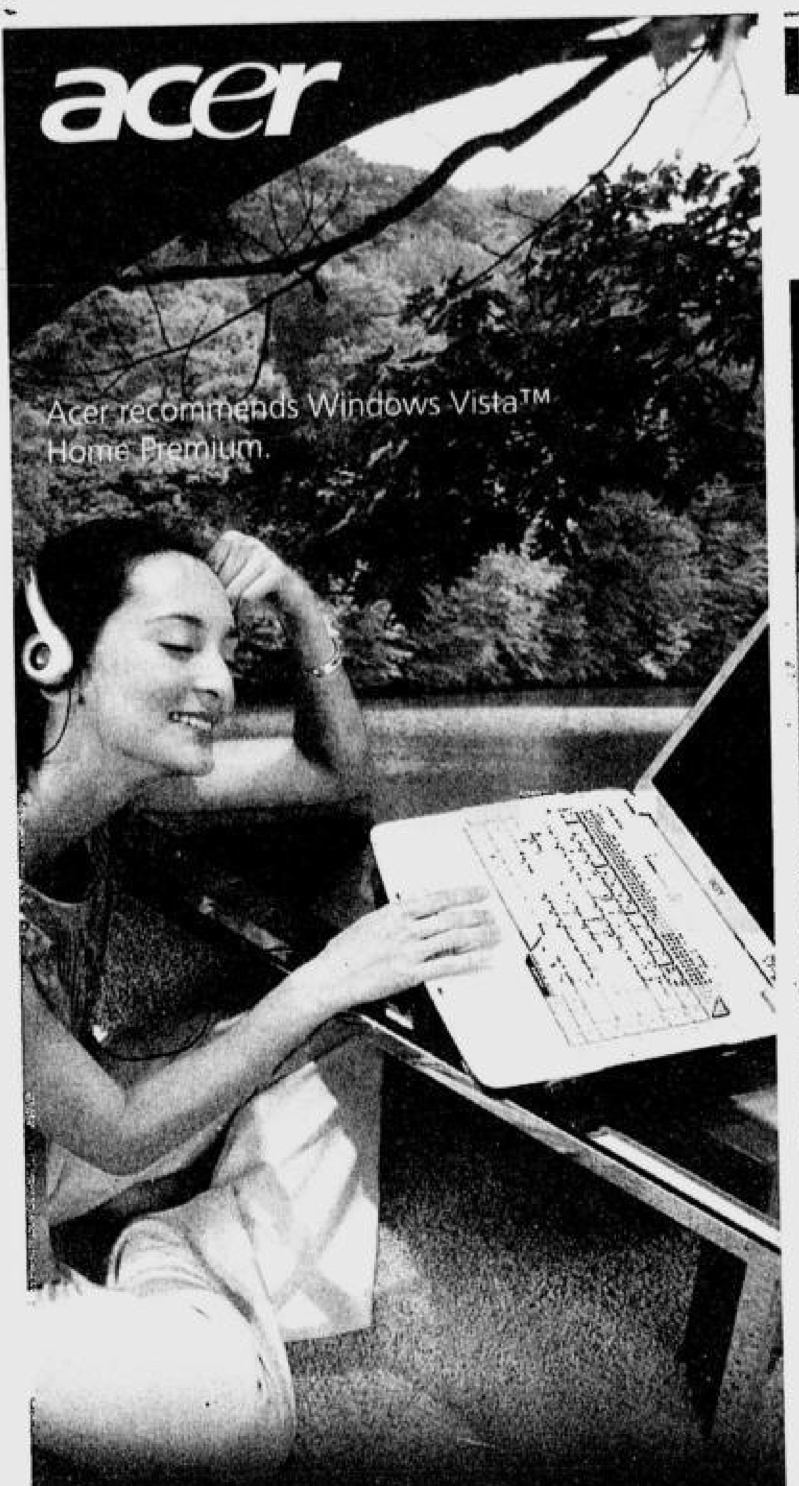
THE ROCKWELL Urban Bazaar will be held Aug. 18-19 at the Rockwell Tent. The two-day event will carry women's fashion, men's lines, accessories, home items, knick-knacks etc. Bottoms Up has clothes that can go from an office to an evening event. Hat Momma carries different lines of hats—garden, beach, sport, sun visors, etc. S.T.A.M.P.S. offers a fun collection of timepieces. Tilka offers home pieces from the Middle East like candles, lamps, etc. The bazaar will also have food booths.

TRIPLE WEEKEND SALE. Festival Supermall holds three weekend mall-wide sale: Aug. 17-19; Aug 24-26; and Aug 31-Sept. 2. Enjoy up to 50-percent discount on selected items with over 600 stores, restaurants, specialty and service shops to choose from. It is open daily, 10 a.m.- 9 p.m. Call 850-3514 and 850-3515 or visit www.festivalsupermall.com.ph.

LIFE FEST. Renowned chef and health expert Nona Lema and South Beach advocate Florabel Co will be featured in the C2 Life Festival starting at 10 a.m., Aug. 18, Glorietta Activity Center in Makati. The pair will teach simple, healthy recipes to help people stay fit. Other activities include belly dancing lessons by Jill Ngo of Peak Performance, Capoeira exhibits, Bikram Yoga lessons. John Pettyjohn will offer tips on pottery-making while Michelle Asense of Zen Zest will talk about soap making. Also involved in the event are Lomo-Manila, Liza Macuja-Elizalde's Ballet Manila, Metropolitan Museum, Ayala Museum, Robinsons Children Library, Music One and Power Books.

SEMINAR. Learningville presents "Like Tasting Sugar: An Experiential Learning of Positive Discipline," Aug. 25, 8:30 a.m.-12 nn at Learningville Center, 59 Xavierville Ave, Loyola Heights, QC. The seminar-workshop is designed for parents, caregivers and teachers of young children who exhibit typical behavioral problems such as aggression, shyness, sibling rivalry and temper tantrums. Roy Iranta, counselor, training specialist and life coach from the Center of Family Ministries (CEFAM) at the Ateneo de Manila University will facilitate the workshop. Limited slots available. Call 434-3506 or e-mail learningville@gmail.com.

RAFFLE PROMO. Cabalen celebrates its 21st anniversary with a bang! When you avail of the buffet, guests automatically earn one raffle coupon for the raffle bonanza. All entries must be in before Aug. 31. Draw date is on Sept. 8, 2 p.m. at Cabalen West Avenue branch. First prize winner will get a full college scholarship program; second prize winner will get P100,000 cash; third prize winner gets a complete computer showcase. Call 3732914 or 3723515.



acer

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SRP: 89,900.00 (7,491.67/mo. x 12mos.)
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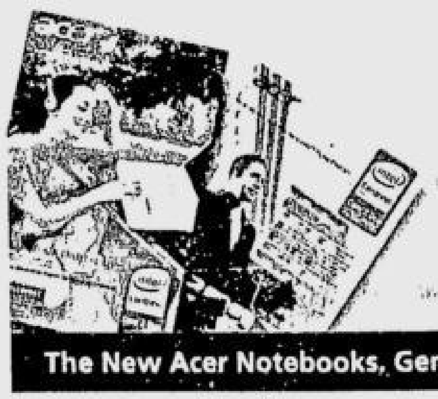
Powered by Intel® Centrino® Duo Mobile Processor Technology
with Intel® Core™2 Duo Processor T7300

TravelMate 6292-301G16
SRP: 79,900.00 (6,658.33/mo. x 12mos.)
With Genuine Microsoft® Windows Vista™ Home Premium
Powered by Intel® Centrino® Duo Mobile Processor Technology
with Intel® Core™2 Duo Processor T7300

*see flyers for complete product line-up.



intel Centrino Duo Core 2 Duo Inside

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2725 Series of 2007.

• 0% is available only if monthly bills are paid in full.

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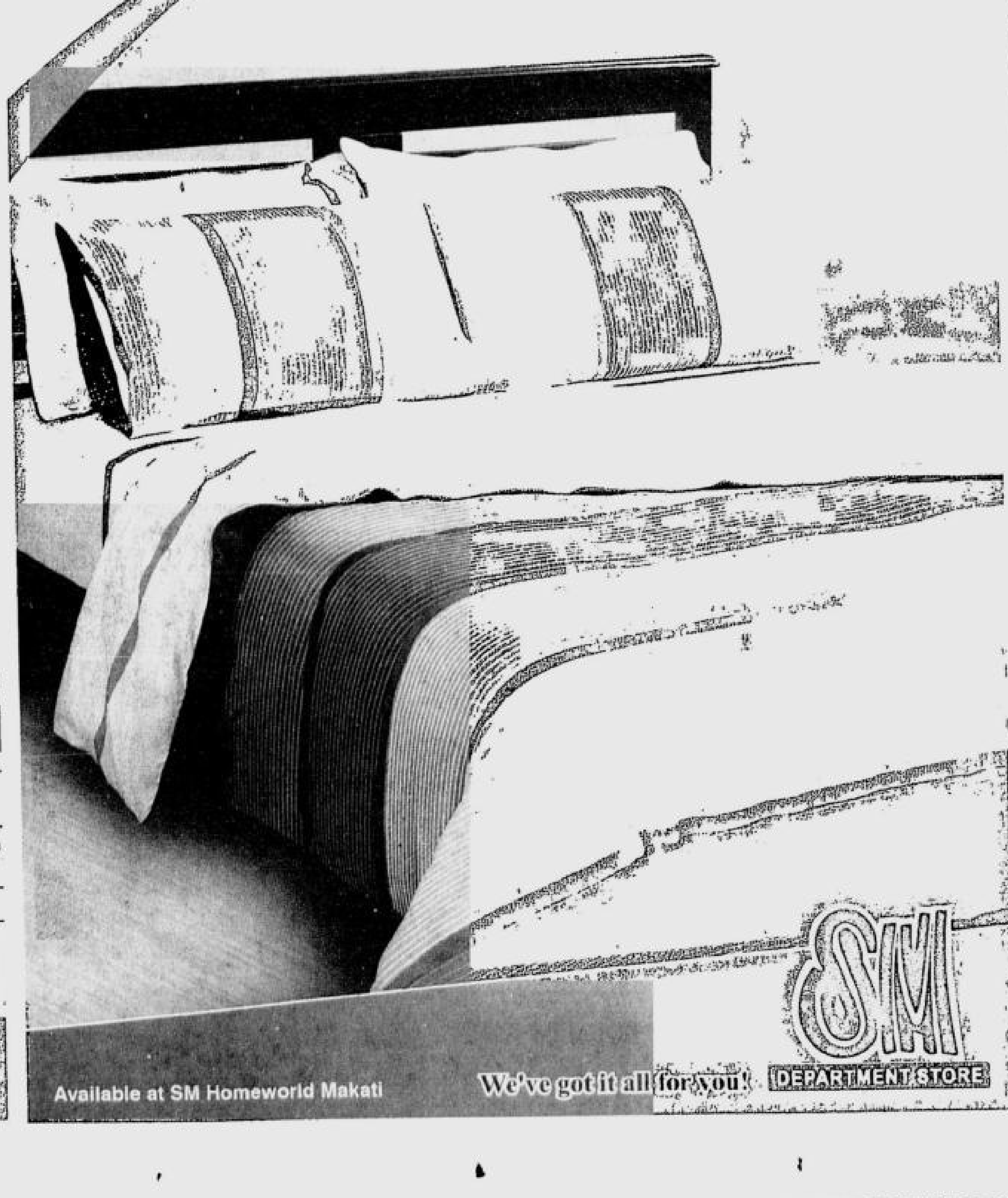

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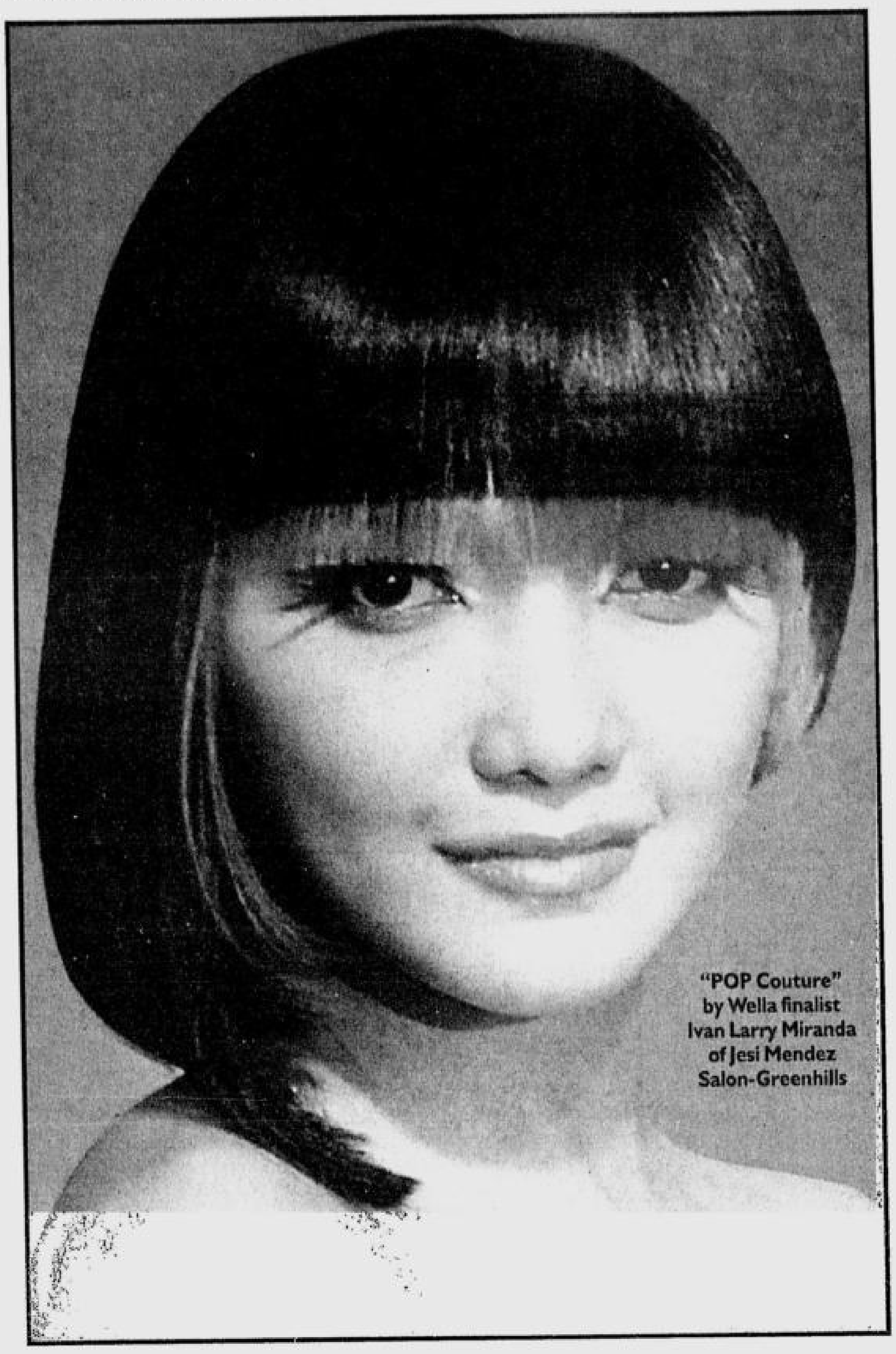
Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

BEAUTY

Hair-raising race

Hair-design winners justify hair tournaments

By Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan



"POP Couture" by Wella finalist Ivan Larry Miranda of Jesi Mendez Salon-Greenhills

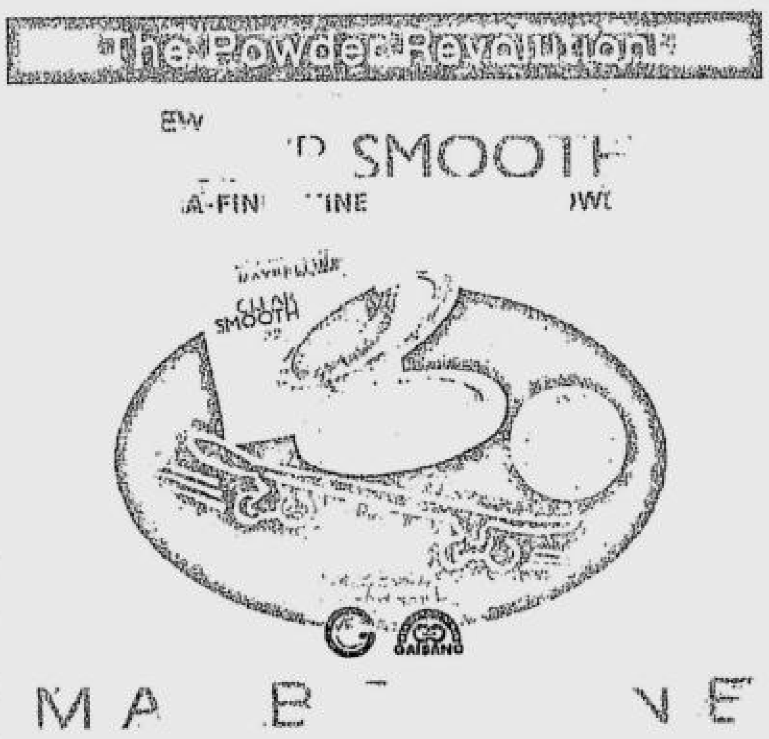
ENGILBERT Dobluis' entry bags the Philippine Wella Trend Vision Award 2007 grand prize. He will compete in the world finals in Spain in October.

HAIR IS A FABRIC MATERIAL that can be transformed into anything," says Lourd Ryan Ramos to explain, once and for all, the significance of hair shows and hair-design competitions. "[Hairstyling] is an art form, one that allows you to express how you feel."

Ramos, a stylist and makeup artist with Emphasis Salon in Rockwell, Makati City, and director of Academy of Beauty and Arts, laughs as I cite a colleague-friend who says he just doesn't "get the point of these outrageous hair shows and wacky hairstyles." The colleague is a fashion writer.

"Fashion, for me, has no timeline," Ramos says. "It just goes back again and again, it's [cyclical]. The point of these hair shows is for stylists to present a fresher approach to a look or technique that's been done before. They just change the names but they're the same."

HAIR-RAISING/ F3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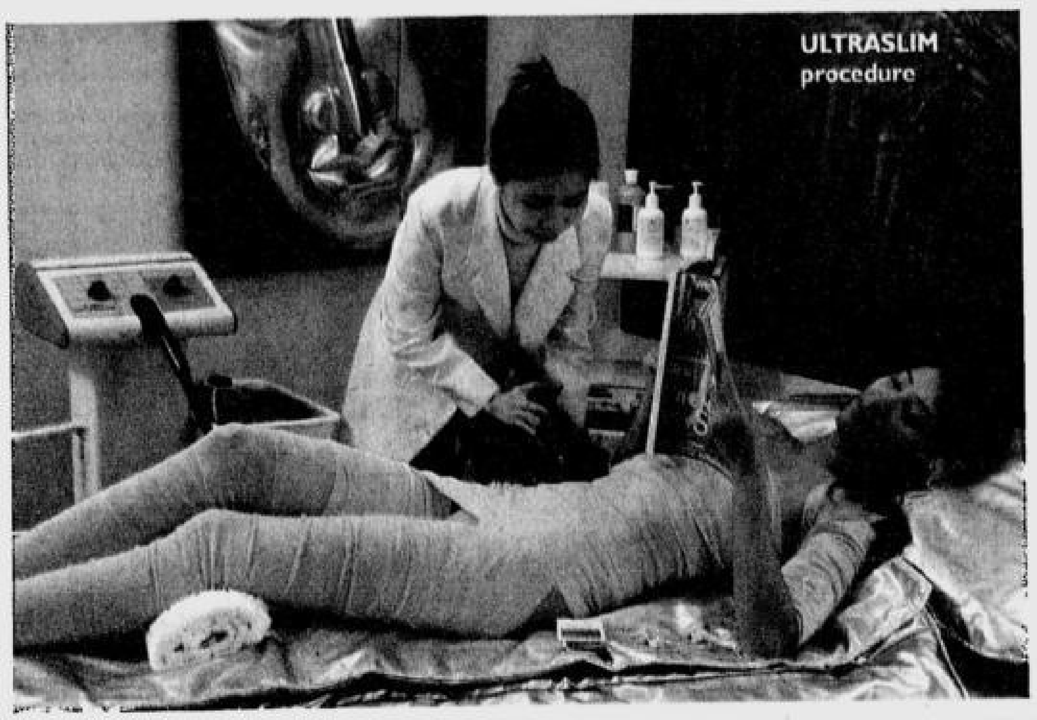


ROWENTA Elite's state-of-the-art styling tools

Sexy hair and cellulite and fat loss made easy

MAKEOVER 911
Kinny Salas

ONLY THOSE REALLY CLOSE to me know this: I don't know how to blow-dry so the late 1980s and early '90s were an ordeal.

Ironic that many ask me for beauty advice, including friends who blow-dry their own hair better than most professionals.

Lazy as I am, my tactic is to get expensive haircuts from extensively trained stylists so my hair looks styled the moment I roll off the bed, and stays that way till it's time for my next cut two or three months later.

Rustan's marketing PR Gerbie Francisco might have noticed my bad-hair days because she sent me state-of-the-art styling tools from Germany called Rowenta.

The professional product line was aptly named Elite as it is in partnership with the Elite modeling agency which introduced Giselle Bundchen and Cindy Crawford to the world of supermodels. These two women, incidentally, possess the hairstyle that's my ultimate fantasy—big sexy hair that moves!

The Elite range has a streamlined design that conveys a sense of well-being, beauty and glamour. Form and function comprise five hot bundles. My favorites in the range are:

Hot Brush for light curls a la Veronica Lake or Lauren Bacall during their prime; Curling Iron Thermostat with a ceramic curling thong and curling brush that make it seem the Cindy/Claudia hair is attainable; and Ionic Brush that allows you to style while you dry your hair, so you hit two birds with one stone at minimal time.

The bestsellers

1. Optiliss Straightener—which won numerous awards from famous magazines as women swear it makes taming the thickest, coarsest or bushiest of hairs easy.

2. Style 8—Too complicated for me (like an advanced level Playstation game), but those who are obsessed with their hair will adore it. This buffet of hair accessories includes three different curling irons, brushes, strengtheners and crimpers. Gee, now even a homebody can be gorgeous!

Elite is exclusively distributed by Rustan's Marketing Corporation. Call 8431319.

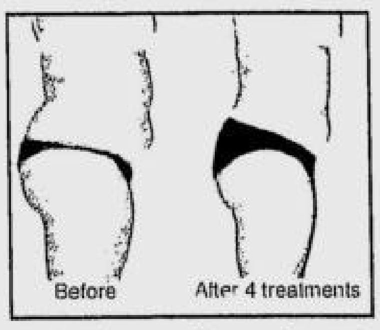
Ultraslim

All this talk of supermodels can only cause most women to lament about their figures. It isn't as simple as losing weight anymore. As if that was ever easy!

Now, we not only want most areas of our body to be thinner, but for certain parts to stay puffed up or perhaps even bigger.

Philosophy by Mikaela Salon, Spa and Wellness Center guarantees loss between four to 14 inches after just an hour or your money back if you don't lose at least two centimeters.

Their newest gadget is called Ultraslim, a nonsurgical, totally painless and relaxing treatment. It works on our lymphatic drainage system and removes fat-retaining toxins.



A Swiss-formulated gel made of natural ingredients is applied to the area. Then an endermologie machine and a laser fat reducer work together to remove cellulite (trapped fat) and the excess fats in our bodies that trap the toxins, causing us to bloat and bulge.

The operation is not merely water loss as the toughest part of the program is that you are required to drink at least three to four liters of water a day for the following days till the next treatment to ensure you flush out all the toxins and diluted fat from your system so that the lard won't just creep back easily.

You can lose up to two dress sizes per treatment. The best part is that the program comes with a guarantee as you will be measured before and after. Call 8187469 or 8921574.

With luck, it may not be as fully booked now as when I was trying to book for it. The treatment requires several sessions and you are advised not to go longer than seven days between treatments.

For the severely budgeted, you may take the treatment right before a special occasion to fit into that couture outfit perfectly.

E-mail the author at kinnysalas@yahoo.com

Earthy beauty

From page F4

nities, especially in terms of career. I am happy to be here now, and it might be because this is the way it's supposed to be.

The opportunity to travel is so far the most rewarding aspect of my winning. You get to know different places and people, and you get to absorb the most interesting kinds of information. It's constant learning through enjoyment, because it's a lot of fun, too.

What's been keeping you busy lately?

I'm busy modeling and traveling, as well as improving my English skills. I am also starting to learn Tagalog, because we never know what the future holds for us.

How do you define beauty?

Beauty is more about being and feeling than how you look. If you are happy with the person you are and your choices in life, if you feel special, appreciated and loved, it is impossible for people not to notice you. Your confidence, your humanity, your heart and soul are what make you beautiful.

When do you feel the most beautiful?

Hmm... I think never. There are times when I look at the mirror and say: "You are looking cutie today!" but that's about it.

I am very critical with myself and that's what drives me crazy most of the time. But at the same time, how could it be different since I am a Virgo?

The fact is, there are days when people around me compliment me, and wow, my self-esteem goes all the way up!

I feel like Julia Roberts in "Pretty Woman" in that red gown, or Catherine Zeta Jones in "Zorro" in that white dress.

What are your five favorite beauty products?

A moisturizer-sunblock for the face, eye cream, night cream, serum for the hair and dark chocolate!

Some people say chocolate mask is good for the skin but I prefer eating it.

How do you keep fit?

Like everybody else, I need to look after what I eat aside from working out at the gym, or playing sports like badminton, volleyball, basketball, biking, boxing, running, doing yoga and joining belly-dancing classes. Everything that makes me burn a lot of calories, especially the ones from the ice cream I love or the cranberry apple pie I am dying for.

I allow myself to have those on weekends, plus the mango shake and bread with butter I enjoy so so much. Have I mentioned dark chocolate?

Anyway I allow myself to eat everything I like because it makes me happy, but in small quantities, of course.

Any home beauty treatments that you would like to share?

I am a very basic girl. I always apply body moisturizer after I shower and, whenever I can, I have a body scrub with crystal sugar and honey during the shower, because I believe it helps improve my skin, especially before I get a tan.

Every 15 days, I apply a hair treatment mascara that I usually buy at the grocery or hairdresser. I also apply vitamin E and C on my skin, the ones you buy at the drugstore in liquid form, to avoid pimples and scars, combat toxins and improve my skin.

What's the best beauty advice given to you?

"Stay happy," and it came from my mom! Up to now I believe and follow it. I have won 9 of the 11 beauty pageants I've joined in my entire life, and I guarantee you that I was not the prettiest one in any of those.

But my mom has always said, and I believe it up to now, that everything in life is not only about the way you look. You must have something else to offer, an "X factor," as how my best guy friend Richie puts it.

Most important of all, you must believe in yourself, and know your positive and negative points. Hide the negative ones and emphasize the positive ones. It does not matter if you are short or tall, skinny or chubby, you must accept and love yourself the way you are. You must stay happy with yourself.

MISS Earth 2004 Priscilla Meirelles

There is a space for each one of us in this world and beauty is very subjective. So if you love yourself, if you are happy with yourself, it's so much easier for others to accept, admire and love you back.

What beauty advice would you like to give our readers?

Take very good care of yourself! I am not only talking about your hair or body, but also your heart and mind! Try to find things that you enjoy doing, try to spend time with people you love and who make you laugh.

At the same time, of course, do sports; exercise; watch what you eat; take care of your body, hair, skin; buy some nice clothes and nice shoes to please yourself!

Accept who you are and take advantage of the fact that you are a unique person. No one is like you, so don't compare yourself with or try to be like anyone else. Stay happy!

How do you celebrate beauty?

With a big smile and a compliment! Whenever I see something or someone beautiful that definitely catches my attention, I have to respond to it.

If it is someone, for sure I will say something like "you are very beautiful!" If it is a place or a moment, I will try to enjoy it as much as I can and share it with my loved ones.

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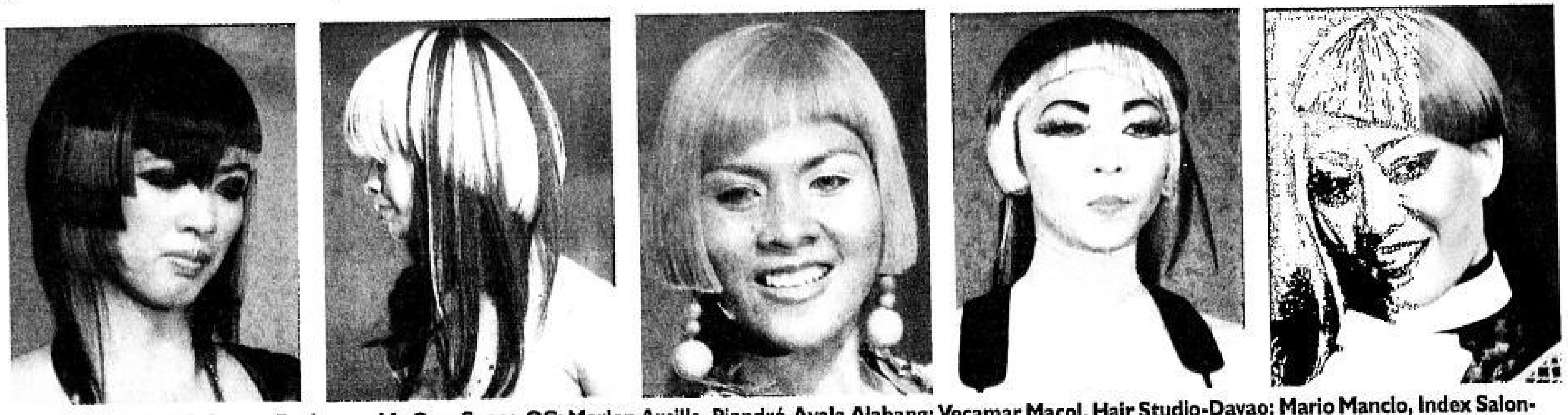


WELLA FINALISTS. Santos Baybayon, My Own Space-QC; Marlon Arcilla, Piandré-Ayala Alabang; Vecamar Macol, Hair Studio-Davao; Mario Mancio, Index Salon-Sta. Ana; and second runner-up winner Levi Rivera, David's Salon-Galleria

"RUSTIC Deluxe," Lourd Ramos' Wella entry, nabs the second prize.

Hair-raising race

From page F1

Toned down

Just like any typical fashion show that owes much of the fantastical runway look to styling and later toned down for a "real" look, Ramos says what appears onstage on a hair show, say, the color, is usually toned down at least two notches for an everyday look.

"These are shows, after all. *Kung* all wearable *lang*, there's no wow factor," says Jacqueline Tan, Davines business unit manager of Hair Ministry Inc., the local distributor of the Italian hair-care brand.

"And let's not forget, these people are artists," Tan adds. These venues are created for hairdressers to "play around ideas and express the look based on the inspirations given to them."

Henri Calayag, creative director of H Salon in Makati, says these "outlandish" expressions of hairstylists are the same everywhere. "Our job is to connect hair forecasts and fashion. Once you incorporate hair with fashion, it's better understood." Say, blunt bangs on Alexander McQueen's runway.

"When you say Hong Kong or Singapore, they're in touch with British and European fashion," says Calayag. "They're likely to wear their hair more avant-garde, more British underground. Filipinos are more understated, it's Hollywood glam. That's the Filipino attitude, even with clothes. When you're creating a bob for the runway, for instance, it has to be exaggerated. But when you do it for a client, it has to turn out into something that she can do on her own every day. You have to be in touch with your client's sensibility."

Ramos contends that hair fashion is universal, an area of expertise that can keep Filipino hairdressers at par with their counterparts all over the world.

Frequent competitor

The young man has been competing for several years. This year he was overall winner of the local contest that was to choose the first Philippine representative to the Davines 5th World Style Contest 2007 in Barcelona, Spain, in October. Ramos, however, lost to the Vietnamese contender at the Asian finals in Ho Chi Minh City last month. But he will still travel to Barcelona as an observer, part of his prize that included cash and Davines products for his salon. (Spain won last year's World Style Contest in Amsterdam, an event that was attended by the INQUIRER.)

Another Filipino will compete in October at the Wella 5th International Trend Vision Award 2007, also in Barcelona. Engilbert Dobluis of Mabalacat, Pampanga, emerged winner in Wella's local finals last week at the Ayala Museum, beating nine other finalists, including Ramos, who was first runner-up.

Dobluis, who was assisted by Patrick Pamintuan, was an assistant to Rolando Quizon when the latter was named Philippine champion last year. Quizon competed in Milan, Italy, in November. Previous local winners include Jay Ballesteros of Hairbytes-Gamboa, who competed in Berlin, Germany, in 2003; Richard Bilalo of Piandré-Greenbelt, who vied for the title in Paris, France, in 2004.

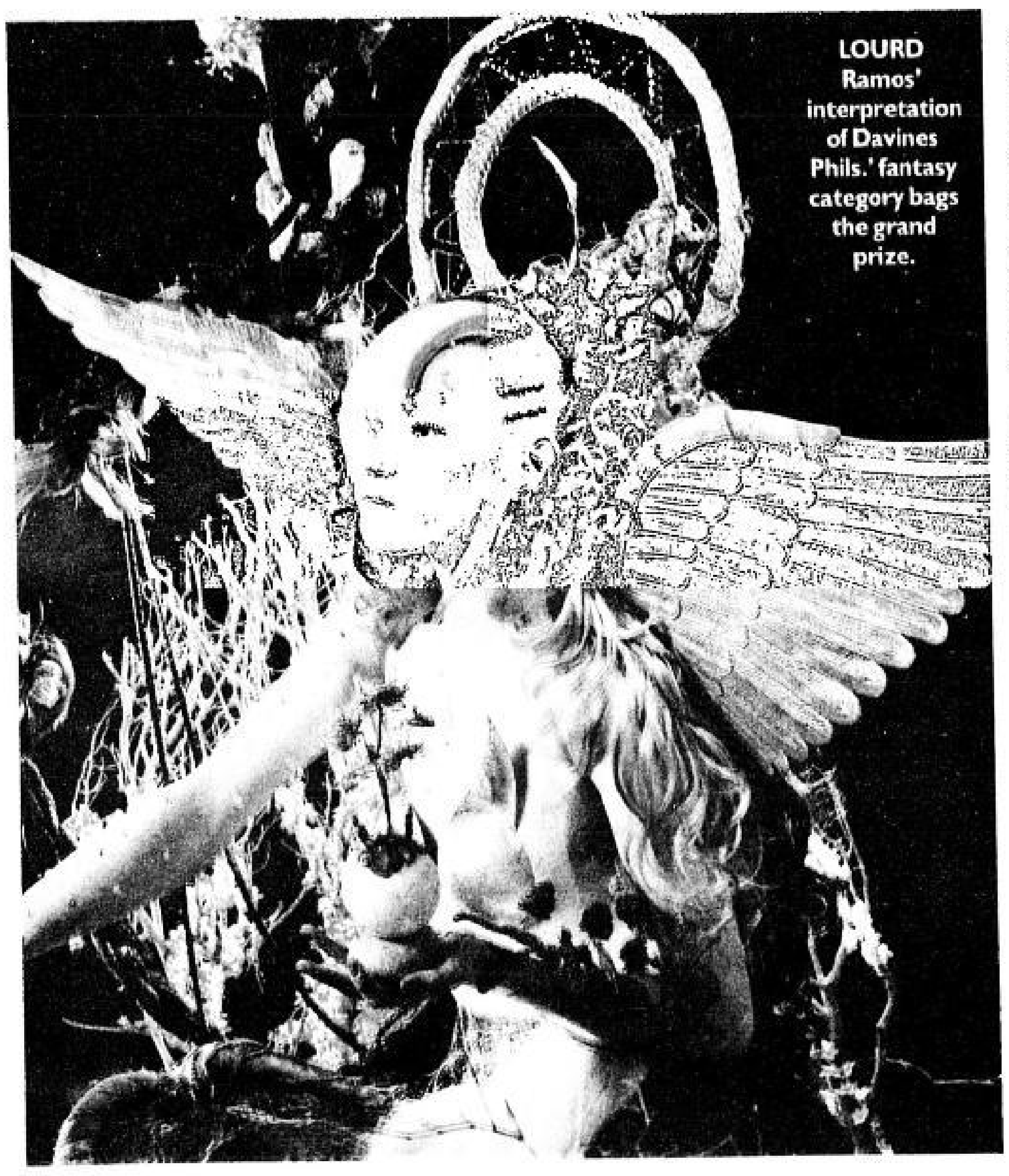
"These contests are helpful not just to us salon professionals," says Ramos. "It also helps educate our clients. I can tell you that about 40 percent of my clients are now more adventurous with their hairstyles. I'm sometimes surprised when they come to me and ask for a certain haircut—and they know the name of the haircut! 'Give me a China chop!' It's good because aren't we all tired of the long, straight, shampoo-commercial hair?"

WELLA grand-prize winner is Enji Dobluis Salon-Mabalacat, Pampanga, composed of stylist Engilbert Dobluis, assistant Patrick Pamintuan and model Yolaidyl Muletong.

ROSE Tabo's (Azta Urban Salon Metrowalk) rendering of Davines' commercial look tops the Freestyle category.

JONI Maclang (David's-Galleria) is Davines' best in the Upbeat (or avant-garde) category.

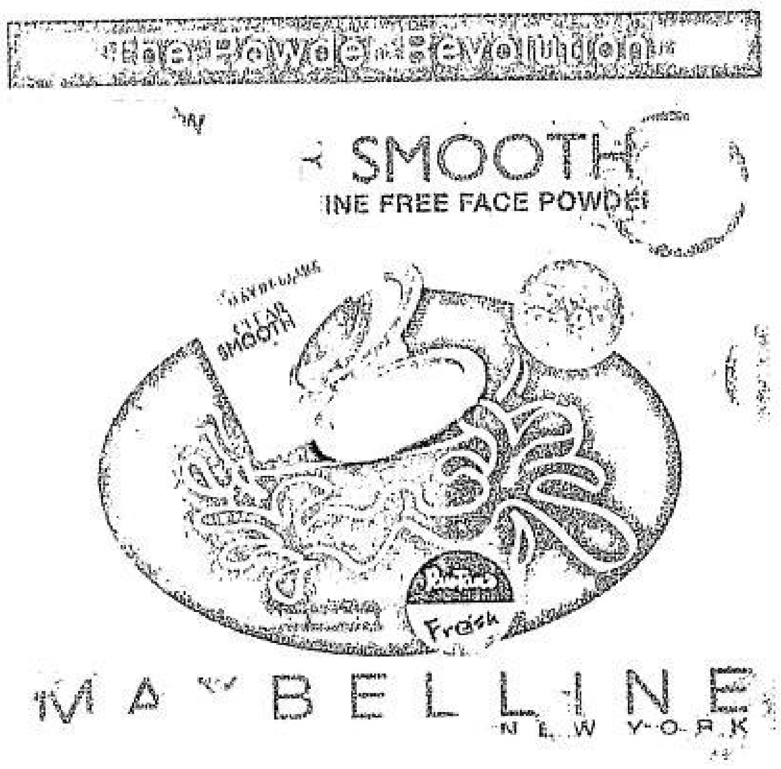
DAVINES PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAIR MINISTRY INC.



LOURD Ramos' interpretation of Davines Phils.' fantasy category bags the grand prize.

WELLA first runner-up winner: Emphasis Salon-Rockwell, Makati, with stylist Lourd Ryan Ramos, assistant Aileen Coyukiat and model Jyra Janagro

WELLA second runner-up winner: David's Salon-Galleria, with stylist Levi Rivera, assistant Arabelle Rosales and model Maureen José



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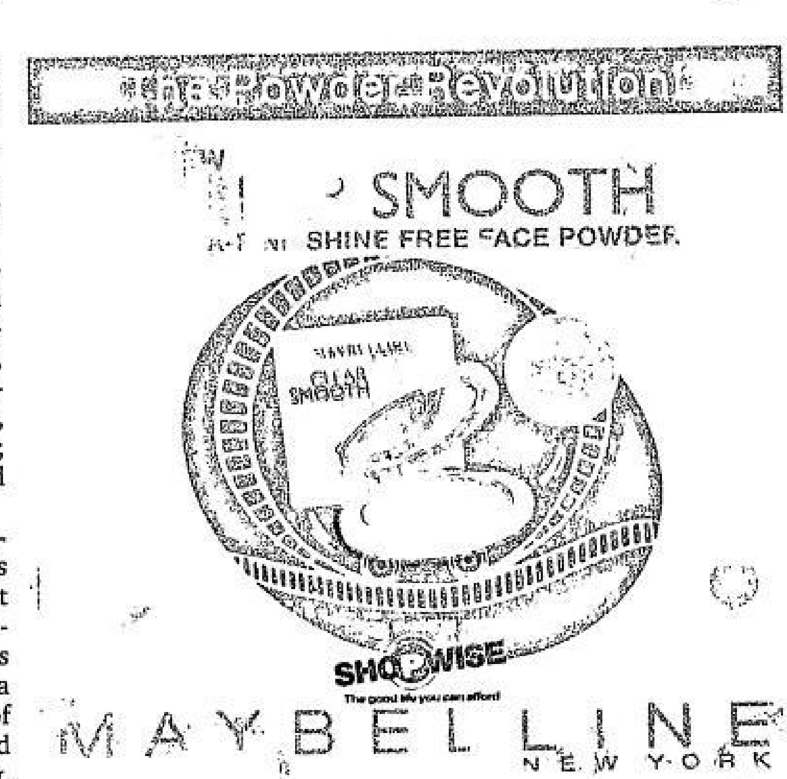

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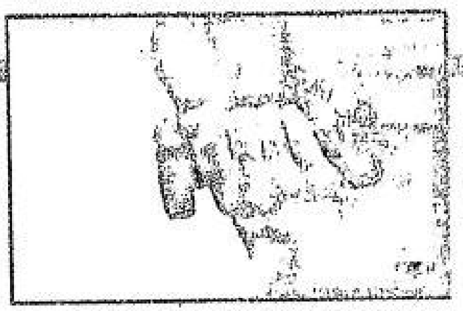

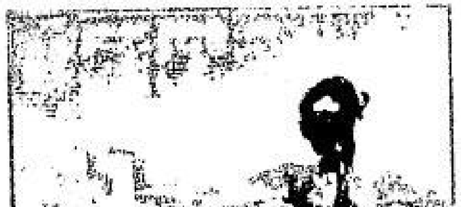

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In fitness, size does matter because of the huge everyday benefits that await those who exercise. And no, we're not just talking about the size of your waist.

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Until now.

Community Innovations, an Ayala Land company, is making big strides towards a fitness-fueled lifestyle even for the busiest of urbanites through its development The Columns Legazpi Village (TCLV). This urban residential abode boasts of the largest and most advanced fitness facility of its kind-- the Fitness Hub.

Jam-packed shower rooms, crowded walkways and long lines at the treadmill, are nowhere to be found in the vast spaces of this almost 2000-square meter fitness abode. More than its generously proportioned workout spaces, its range of activity offerings make it comparable even to the most advanced gyms in the Metro. It features Olympic-grade equipment that can pump you into world-class shape; ample jogging trails where everyone can run to their heart's content and finally, an extensive pool area currently the envy of swimming aficionados.

The Fitness Hub caters to every urbanite's fantasies of a sprawling one-stop fitness abode right at their doorsteps. And since the Fitness Hub is just a few steps away from TCLV units, residents can partake of this ultimate fitness solution at their utmost convenience.

With the big benefits and conveniences from the fitness-fuelled lifestyle at The Columns Legazpi Village, indeed, size does matter.

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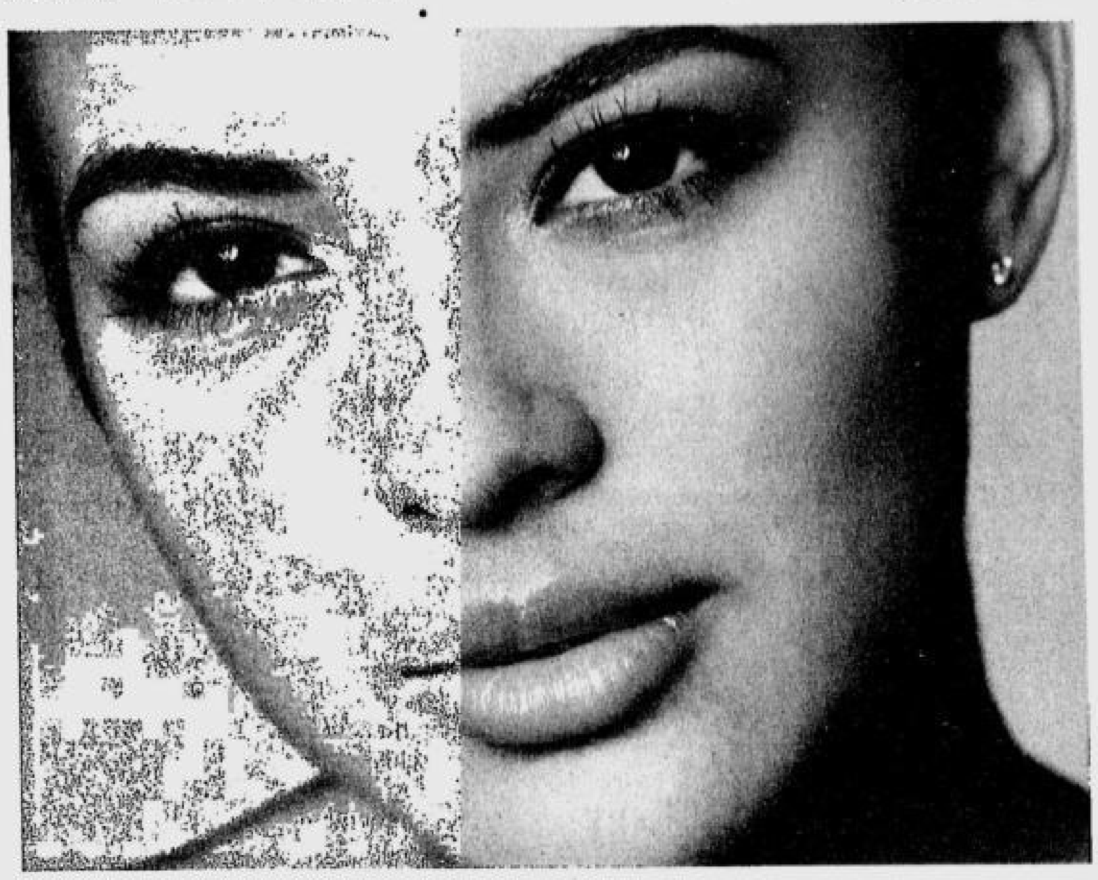
Earthy beauty

Let's get up close and personal with Miss Earth 2004 Priscilla Meirelles

Photography Lilen Uy
Makeup Barbi Chan
Styling Ria Francisco-Prieto



EVERY YEAR THERE'S A new Miss Earth, but 2004 winner Priscilla Meirelles has become a Philippine favorite. Let's get up close and personal with this beauty.

What did it mean to you being crowned Miss Earth in 2004?

It meant a lot to me because it was a huge accomplishment for me and my country. Brazil had not won any beauty pageants in more than 40 years before that time.

I was raised in the famous Amazon Forest and Miss Earth gave me the opportunity to work with something that I grew up learning to love and care for, which is the environment.

As Miss Earth title holder, I could speak loudly and my words have the power of touching other people's hearts. Because of the crown and sash, people really paid attention to the things I was saying, and it made them somehow reevaluate their attitudes about the environment.

My life completely changed, too. To start with, I even moved to this country, and that changed my entire world—my friends, profession, language and most important of all, my attitude.

The pageant opened a lot of opportu-

EARTHLY/ F2

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Ria Francisco-Prieto

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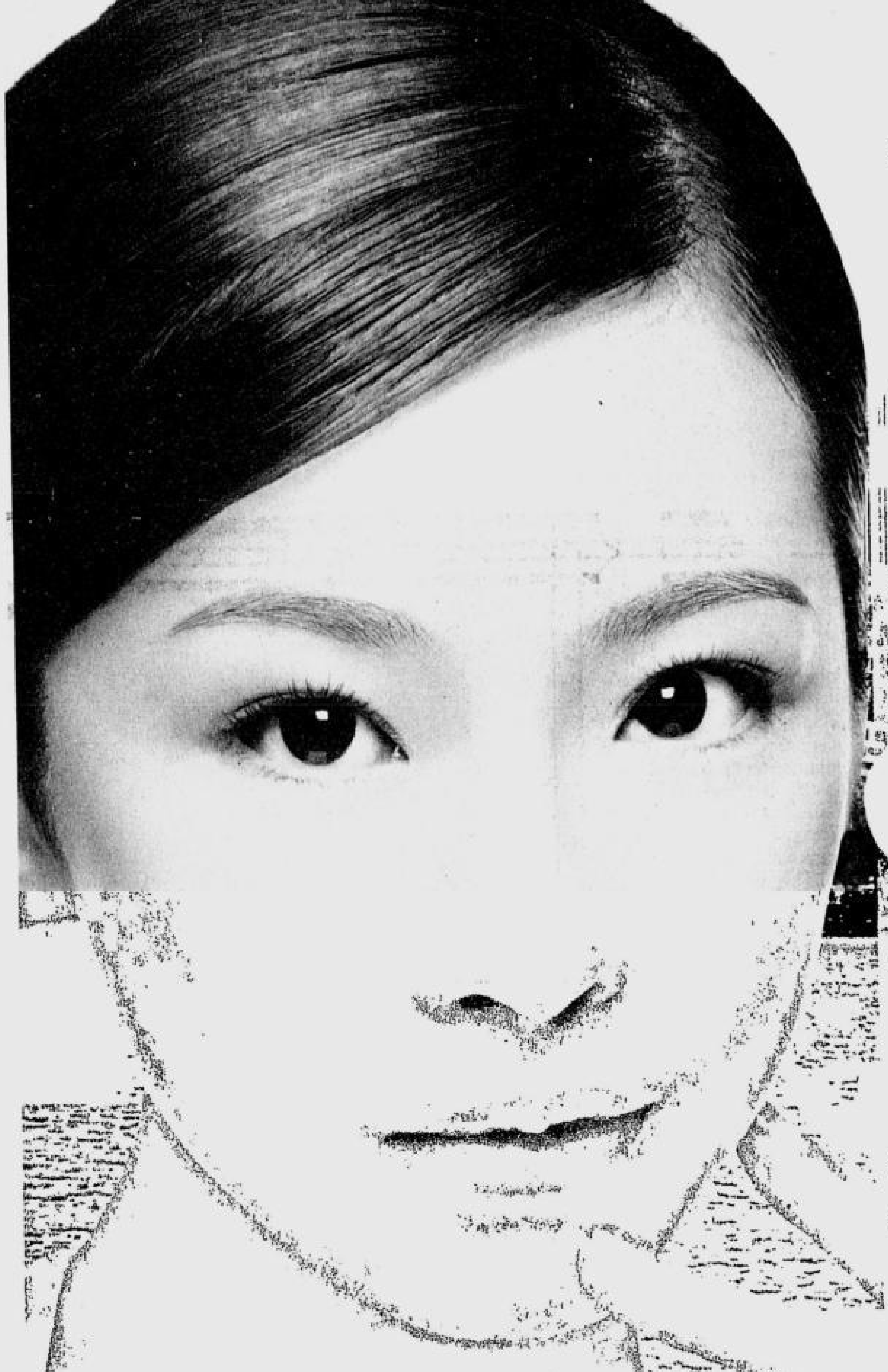

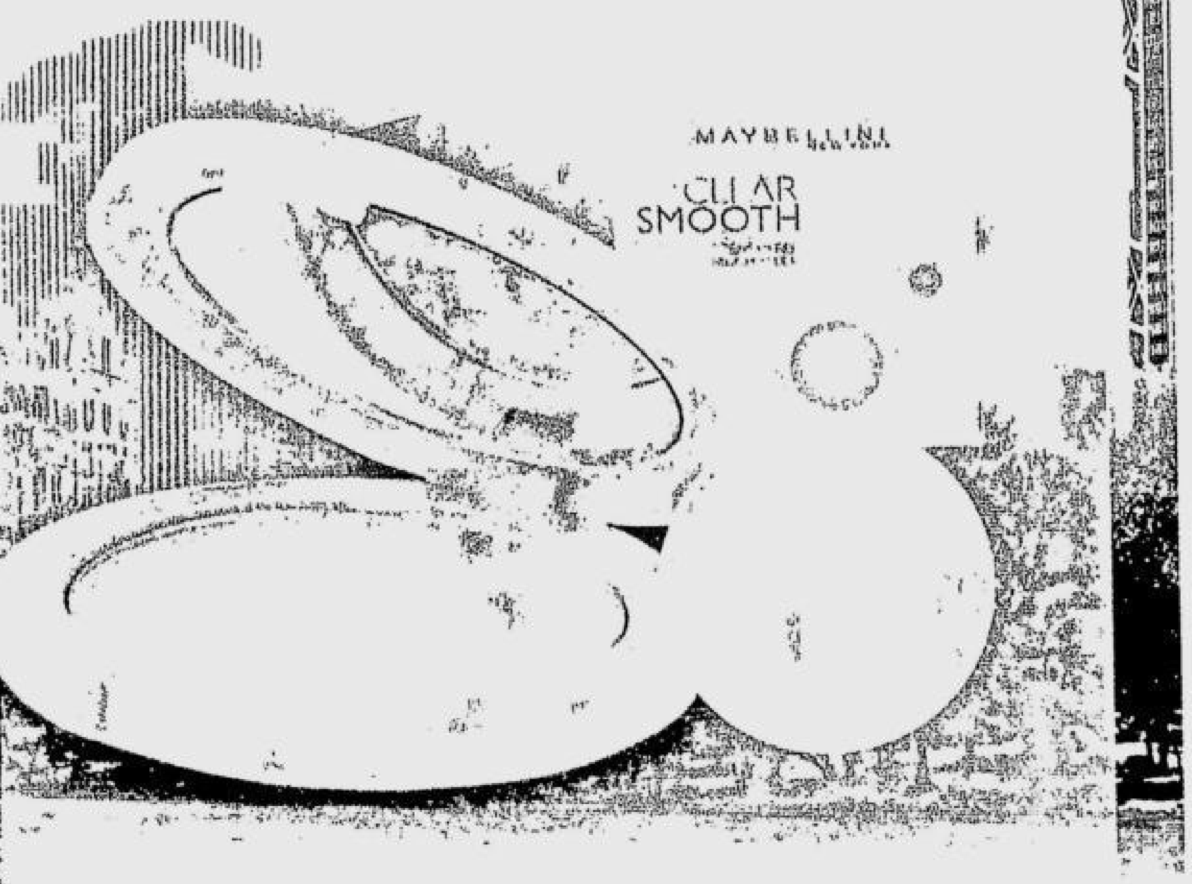

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Binangonan - JP Rizal
Binangonan - Pag-Asa
Binan - Mabini
Binan - Palamo
Cainta A. Bonifacion
Cainta Ortigas Extension
Cavite Trece Martirez
Cavite Padre Burgos
Dasmarinas Aguinaldo Highway
Edsa-Cainta - Mandaluyong
Edsa-Cainta - Pasig
Hagonoy - Poblacion
Imus - Nueno
Kawit - Binakayan
Meycauayan - Highway
Mandaluyong - Pinatubo
Navotas - Poblacion
Parañaque - BF Homes
Qplaza - Cainta
Pasig - Kapitolyo
Robinsons - Dasmarinas
Robinsons - Imus
Robinsons - Sta. Rosa
Rosario - PO
San Pedro Pacita
Sta. Cruz - Padre Burgoz
Sta. Cruz - Padre Guevarra
Sampaloc - Legarda
San Mateo - Gen Luna
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Sta. Rosa - Poblacion
Tanza - Poblacion
EDSA Central Mandaluyong
EDSA Central Pasig
Bonifacio Global City -McKinley Parkway
Bonifacio Global City -Market Market
Guadalupe
Masagana - Pasig
Meycauayan - Malhacan
Meycauayan - McArthur Highway
Meycauayan - Sto. Niño
Los Banos - College
Siniloan - Redor
Malolos - McArthur Highway
San Miguel - Poblacion
Rodriguez JP Rizal
Olivarez Plaza - Los Baños
Olivarez Plaza - Biñan
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Bocaue - McArthur Highway
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Calamba - Pabalan
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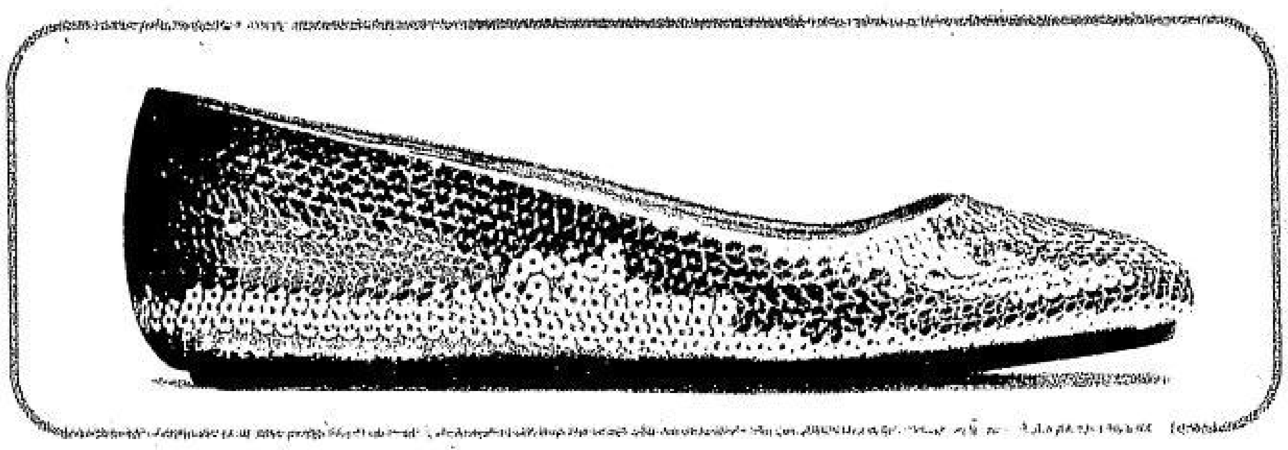
LOOKING stylish and comfortable, Cameron Diaz sports a pair of ballet flats from Bally.

Bella ballerina

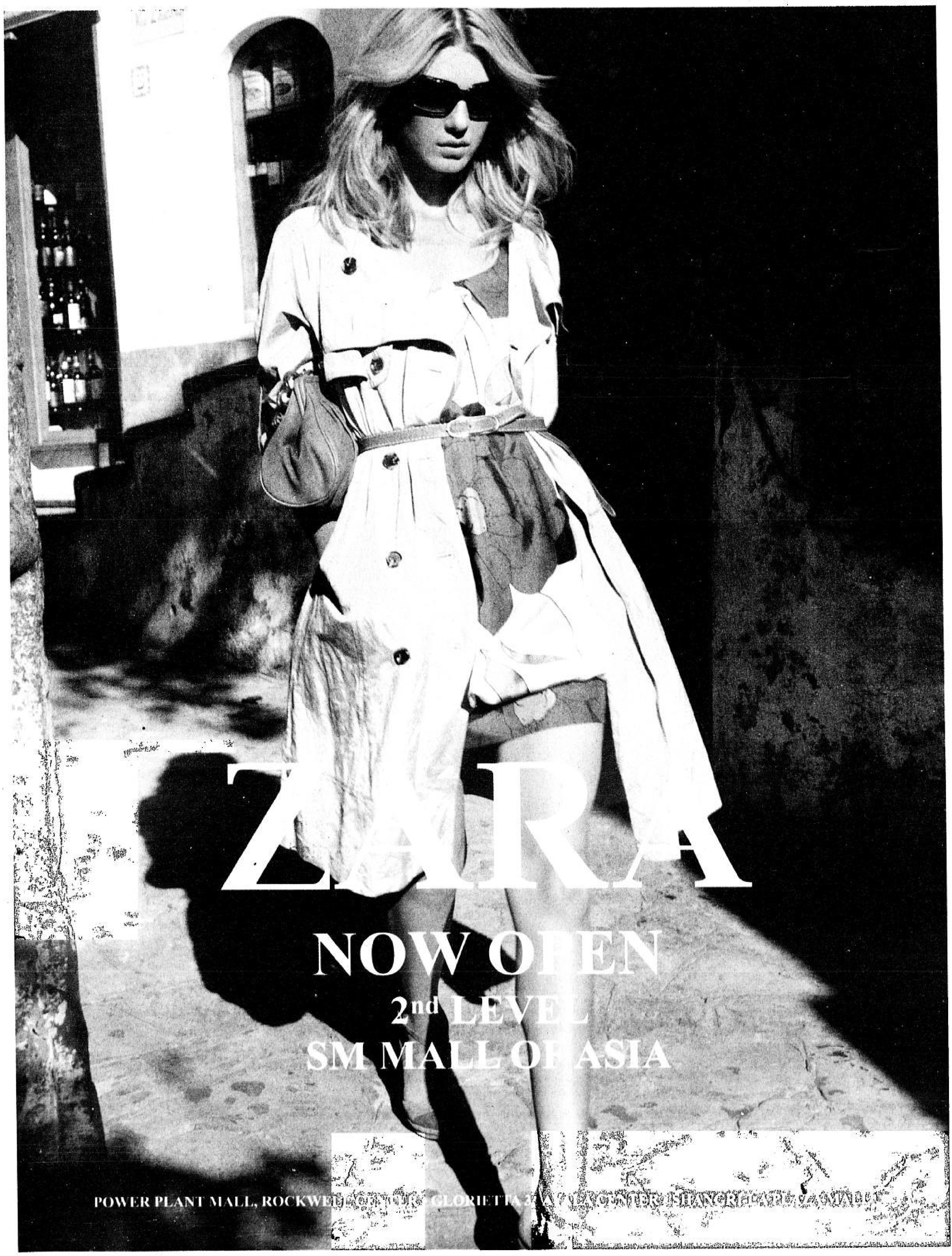


SPARKLY TOES. Lumia ballet flats from Bally adorned with silver sequins

LOOK WHO'S BEEN SPOTTED WEARING Bally's Lumia ballerina flats covered in silver sequins.

Hollywood's favorite leading lady Cameron Diaz enjoys wearing flats on casual, lazy days, as opposed to flashy, sky-high stilettos for red-carpet events. And just her luck, Bally's silver sequined ballet flats have soft foot-beds to keep her feet comfy without losing high-fashion edge.

Bally is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists, Inc. and is available at Power Plant Mall, Greenbelt 4, Shangri-La Plaza Mall and Rustan's Makati.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NUVO'S MAIN man, Louie Ysmael, with his angels and top party organizers, Liza Tan and southern belle Cacay Moras

THE MOET Hennessy Gang. Chuen Ooi Png, Chwee Sing Koo, Olga Azarcon and Randy Uson

ANNA Angara, DJ Montano, Jun Poblador and Marta Lovina

JASON Lane, Monica Villanu
and Miguel Blardony

RYAN Ordoñez, Paula Rosale

Upscale club marks fifth year

CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT UPSCALE Nuvo is now 5 years old and going stronger than ever? When it marked its fifth year, all of *Cosmo Manille*'s social set as well as the political and business sectors went to its party, *palanggas*.

Yes, we've all been enjoying this restobar that set the standard for the fab mix of fine dining, cocktails and partying, fab music and always great company.

The bash started early with an exclusive, by-invitation-only Moët & Chandon Vintage sit-down dinner, dahlings. Man of the hour **Louie Ysmael** did not disappoint the elite set of stylish personalities, headed by Moet Hennessy's **Olga Azarcon** and **Randy Uson**, as well as finance and administrative director **Chuen Ooi Png** and business development director **Chwee Sing Koo**.

And oh, what a sumptuous champagne dinner it was, dahlings. Course after exquisite course was paired and served with only the finest chilled bubbly, Moët & Chandon, *naturellement*.

The invitees were still enjoying the delectable dessert when the party got on a roll. Fashionable early birds included **Anna Angara**, Asian Spirit's **Noel Oñate**, talented **Anton Mendoza**, **Joey Carpo**, dashing **Mike Toledo**, **Trish Briones**, **Pepper Teehankee**, **RJ Ledesma**, southern gent **Jun Poblador** and **Marta Lovina** truly spiced up the sizzling night, which was superbly organized by smart and vivacious southern belles **Cacay Moras** and **Liza Tan**, no less, dahlings.

Others present were edgy fashion designer **Alcs Porras**; **Jing Monis**; Superfly's **Leo Po** and **Karl Ty**; Marlboro's **Angela de Vera**; iconic music authorities **Steve Mills**, **Bombi Balquiedra**, **Edge Pamute** and **Teddy Dario**; and Ralph Wine's popular **Ralph Joseph**, plus others you know and love or hate. But then, *palanggas*, you were there, too, *n'est ces pas*?

Lending a dash of glamour were vivacious **Tessa Prieto Valdes**; elegant couple **Philip** and **Ching Cruz**; designer to the stars **Randy Ortiz**; effervescent sisters **Juliet** and **Mimi Tan**; and gorgeous **Amanda Griffin**, natch.

It was a perfect blend of the been-there, done-that crowd, and the new pack on the fast lane, dahlings. Leave it to Nuvo to keep those enjoyable, chic, must-attend events comings, *palanggas*.

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by Alex Van Hagen using **Kodak** EasyShare system

Oakley

Cool and breezy styles from the leading renowned brands Oakley, Reef and Surfer Girl hit the catwalk in the Walk this Way fashion show that unveiled their latest collections.

This was one show that really got my adrenaline going, dahlings. It was an energetic, playful and action-packed fashion show. A feast for the eyes, the large beach-theme set with its tropical and cooling colors had three separate entrances for each of the three brands and a runway which extended to the crowd so that guests truly felt part of the show.

The show began with the large video screens on each side of the stage lighting up and making the introductions before each brand was shown on the runway.

Then the surprises came, with the models showing off the Surfer Girl collection and sashaying down the runway and taking a shower right onstage.

Next on display were the Reef bikini and flip-flop collections. *Moi* heard oohs and wow loud and clear from the audience as the models entered and exited from an actual Reef surfer combi van and used the Reef Mick shoe onstage to open their beer bottles, would you believe?

Oakley apparel and eyewear were

AYALA'S architect Anthony Castillano, AC Ocampo, Louie Y., Edwin Macapagal and Oliver Chan

THE AUDIENCE is taken by surprise at the Walk this Way fashion show when Diether Ocampo appears on the runway.

VINCE Lahorra plays on as the sun sets.

TALENTED Anton Mendoza with Divine Lee and her man Adriano Kartuliares

CAROL Go, Trish Briones and Anna Ong

MAC Lubaczewski, Asian Spirit's Noel Oñate and Pepper Teehankee

REP. JOEY Zubiri and Maureen Santiago

TESSA Prieto Valdes and Joji Dingcong

MIMI and Juliet Tan

ELEGANT couple Philip and Ching Cruz

BOYET Sison and gorgeous Say Alonzo

ANTONIO Ressano and Edge Pamute

CHIC gals Leica Carpo and Shu Uemura's Tessa Dragon

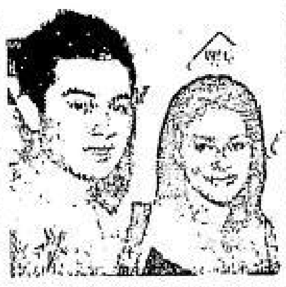
PAULIN

TEMPLE and Embassy's hotshot owner, Eric Cua

CHIC Emma Policarpio

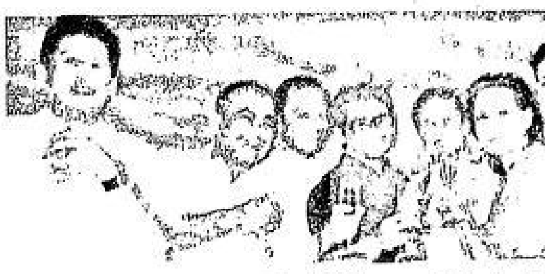
NUVO'S
gal, vivac
Fran Riba

ACTOR Dominique Ochoa and Jeff Rodriguez of Meera Enterprises

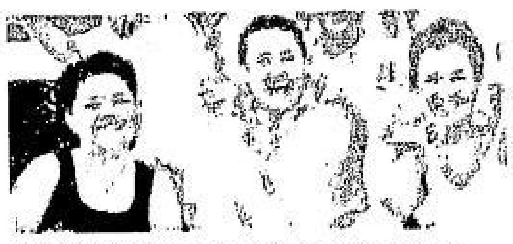


BUMGARNER CLAN. Ma
Monette and Michele Bu

HANNY and Stephen Palmer, CEO of Surfergirl, Ram
Ortega of Meera Enterprises

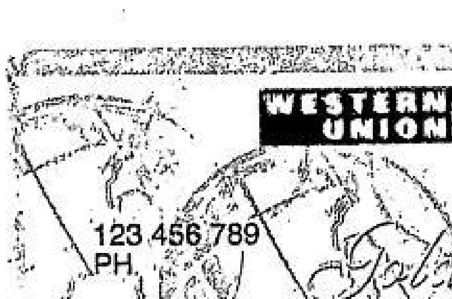


THE GANG. Designers Tonichi Nocom, Marden Iglesi
Katigbak, Henry Calayag, Mike de la Rosa and Cesar G
(right), with birthday gal Wanda Louwallien and Celin



A TOAST to the good life. Maricar Balino, Cris Albert and Deena de la Cruz

MARIE
Evarist
Jessica



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va, gorgeous Amanda Griffin

ABSINTH'S Christine San Diego, Steve Mills and Marlboro's Angela de Vera

. Joey Pineda and Century Tuna's Leo Po

GP REYES and adorable Chicho Suarez

E and Raffy Juan

new PR
ous
no

ALANA Lopez Montelibano

rk,
garner

LEE Bumgarner

sh Dargani and Jane

s, Gerry
aupo
Lopez

LIESE
o and
Bunevacz

featured next. Again, we were treated to another surprise as we suddenly recognized that those wearing Oakley sunglasses and clothing were celebrity models **Diether Ocampo, Brad Turvey, Rovilson Fernandez,** champion wakeboarders **Arthur** and **Martha King, Paolo Araneta, Jeena Llamas Lopez, Gaby dela Merced, Mia Cabalfin** and gorgeous **Michelle Bumgarner.**

Tons of fun and colorful bikinis, board shorts and flip-flops hit the runway from Reef and Surfer Girl, while the awesome display of Oakley apparel and fab eyewear was the perfect climax of that night of surprises, *palanggás.*

Hey, don't wait for tomorrow. Go and check out the action, *palanggas*. Look great and feel good these rainy days by gearing up with their latest must-haves.

Check out Oakley, Reef and Surfer Girl from Oakley Optical Premium Dealers in G Force at The Podium, SM Mall of Asia and Power Plant Mall.

Sail for a cause

A sunset cruise at the Manila Bay—sounds cheesy? Maybe. But for the woman with a big heart of gold, **Cris Albert,** it was a chance to help and celebrate in style at the same time, dahlings.

Cris won the awesome cruise at an auction for the breast-cancer benefit Pink For Life, held at the Shangri-La Makati. But she proceeded to do another good deed, that is, to use the cruise as a surprise birthday party for her oh-so-fabulous mom **Wanda Louwallien,** no less.

With the help of her vivacious sister **Ana Bitong,**Cris invited 10 of mommy dearest's closest pals.

The *tres* prive guest list included fashion designers **Cesar Gaupo, Mike de la Rosa, Tonichi Nocom, Gerry Katigbak** and **Marden Iglesias;** plus former catwalkers **Jessica Rodriguez Bunevacz** and **Celine Magat-Lopez.**

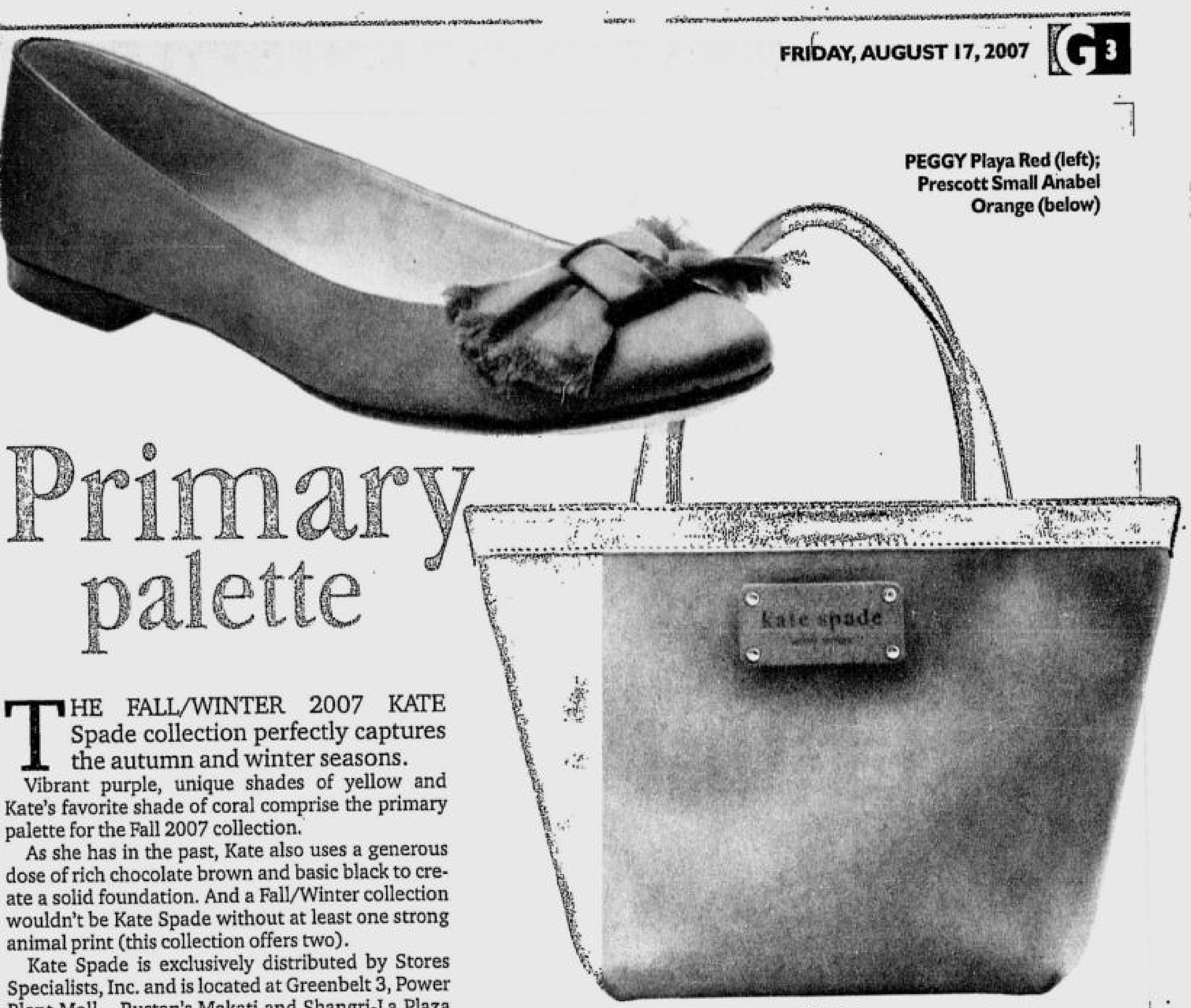
Aboard the yacht, there were live jazz music by saxophonist **Vince Lahorra;** delicate, scrumptious hors d'ouvres courtesy of The Peninsula Hotel; and endless pouring of the chilled bubbly Moët & Chandon, plus, last, but not the least, soulful conversation with the people closest to Wanda's heart, *palanggas*.

The gorgeous celebrator shed tears of joy in appreciation of the thoughtful and intimate celebration of her special day.

A happy, happy birthday to you, Wanda! You're one of the best!

Cheers, palangga.

GORGEOUS looker Mariles Garcia, eyecatching hostess Cris Albert, Queen for a day and mother of the hostess Wanda Louwallien, Deena dela Cruz and Wanda L's daughter Ana Bitong



PEGGY Playa Red (left); Prescott Small Anabel Orange (below)

Primary palette

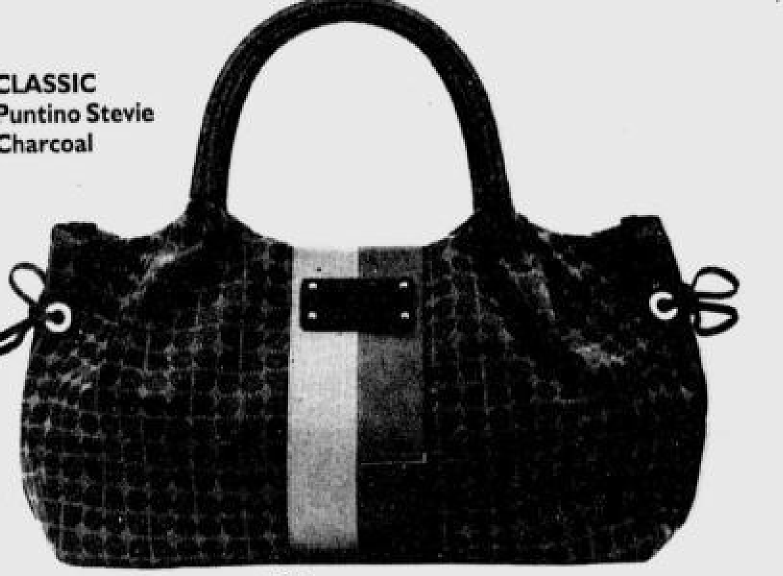
THE FALL/WINTER 2007 KATE Spade collection perfectly captures the autumn and winter seasons.

Vibrant purple, unique shades of yellow and Kate's favorite shade of coral comprise the primary palette for the Fall 2007 collection.

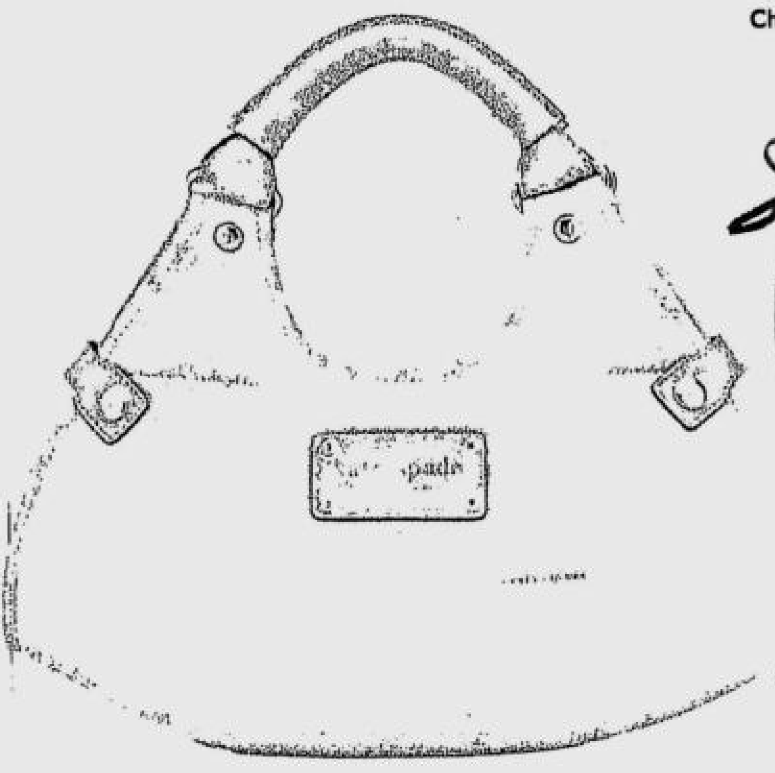
As she has in the past, Kate also uses a generous dose of rich chocolate brown and basic black to create a solid foundation. And a Fall/Winter collection wouldn't be Kate Spade without at least one strong animal print (this collection offers two).

Kate Spade is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists, Inc. and is located at Greenbelt 3, Power Plant Mall, , Rustan's Makati and Shangri-La Plaza Mall.

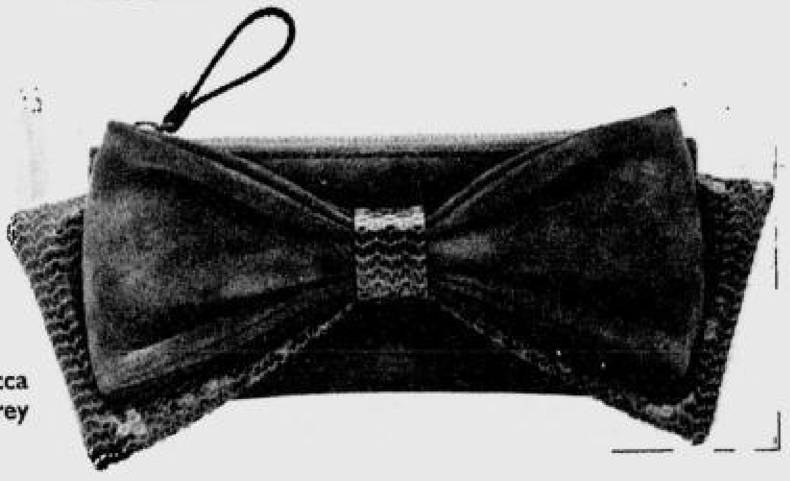
Visit www.katespadelookbook.com/philippines.



CLASSIC Puntino Stevie Charcoal



SNOW Mass Small Charlie Lime



TUXEDO Park Bow Becca Suede Pailette Grey

Pop Art timepieces

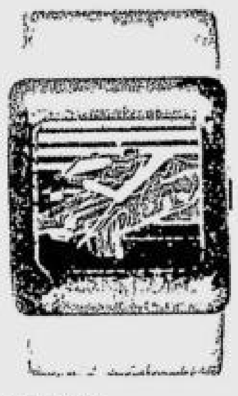
"IN THE FUTURE, EVERYBODY WILL BE world-famous for 15 minutes." This unforgettable line was said by Andy Warhol, acknowledged as one of the most influential artists of the 20th century.

Now, you can get your own 15 minutes of fame and more with a new line of limited-edition watches, the Andy Warhol Pop Collection.

Featuring artworks from Warhol's early days as a fashion illustrator, which laid the foundation for the Pop Art movement that challenged the world to see art differently, the Pop Collection brims with imagination, confidence and creativity.

It embraces the iconic artist's sophisticated sense of design, forward-thinking concepts and the ability to see the familiar from an unexpected perspective.

The collection blends Warhol's tongue-in-cheek brand of humor, his playful use of zany colors and his ironic nonchalance, all in the name of stylish accessorizing.



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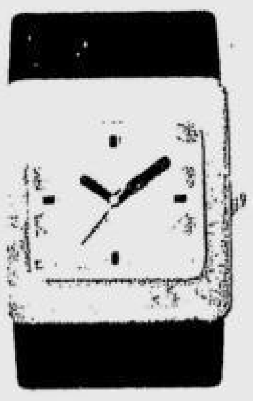

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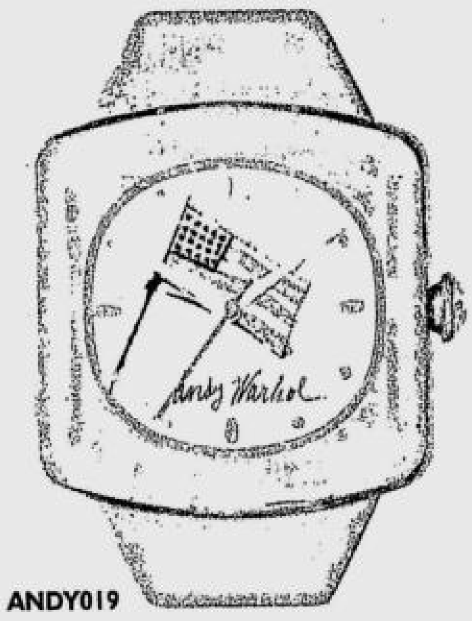

ANDY019

All watches in the collection feature aluminum or plastic injection cases etched with Andy Warhol's distinctive signature, genuine leather straps, stainless-steel deployment buckles, exclusive detailed crowns, bonus Warhol patch and cool Pop Collection packaging.

Each is definitely a collectible must-have, whether you're a fun and free-spirited bohemian, a style-savvy artist-type or an independent-thinking maven who dares to stand out and break free from the crowd.

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In-laws in style

CELEBRITY SISTERS-IN-LAW Kat Sandejas-Manosa, Christine Jacob-Sandejas and Agot Isidro-Sandejas confess to sharing a unique friendship that goes way back before Christine and Agot married Kat's brothers.

"We met through swimming," said Christine, a SEA Games gold medalist, Olympian and 800m freestyle Philippine record holder.

"We're all close, very open, and all aware of each other's temperaments, flaws, quirks," Agot said.

Agot has maintained a relatively low public profile, emerging only to perform for concerts, release her now hit bossa nova album, and act for "Rounin," the ABS-CBN futuristic hit.

"I see Christine every weekend, Agot probably every two weeks," said Kat, the youngest and most recently married (to architect Gelo Manosa).

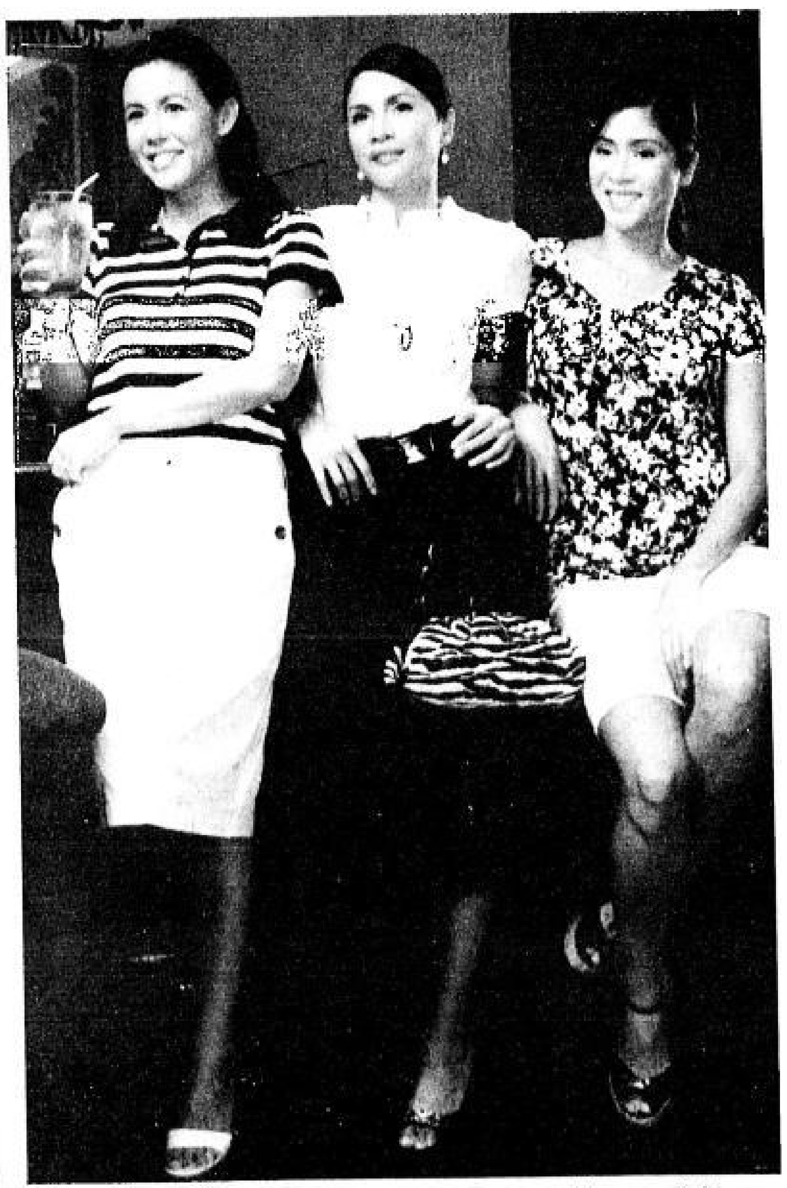
Their demanding personal and professional schedules notwithstanding, Kat said, "We make it a point to hang out—'just the Sandejas girls'—about once a month."

And what do they do?

"Shopping!" Kat said. Christine pointed at Kat and said, "She's the instigator!"

ON Agot: white linen wrap-around dress. On Christine: green linen safari jacket and white capris. On Kat: green tea-and-white striped tunic top and white slacks. All from Liz Claiborne

(ABOVE) Beige scoop neck tank, floral pleated skirt, three-layered necklace with semi-precious stones, beaded bracelet, oval drop earrings. (Right, top) Green printed long-sleeve linen polo, white capris, orange leather clutch, gold oval drop earrings and necklace. (Right) White embroidered long-sleeve tunic, black wide-leg capris, gold chain and leather belt, silver hoop earrings and long chain with semi-precious stones


ON Christine: black and white stripes polo shirt, white pencil skirt. On Agot: white ruffled short-sleeve polo, black pleated skirt, zebra print bag. On Kat: V-neck black and white floral shirt, white shorts. All from Liz Claiborne

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SOFT and sweet in light colors. On Krizia: Knitted white shirt with embroidered flowers, printed cotton skirt, woven bag and bead necklace

SULTRY EBONY. On Rachel: Sequined cotton tank top, black skirt with white piping, and aqua-and-white bead necklace

DARK DAYS. Black polka-dot skirt, embroidered tank top, and metal-and-ribbon necklace

Luxe ladies

Kashieca's new line caters to all types of women—from giggling colegialas to serious office girls to late-night party divas

By Bianca Consunji
Photos by Ryan Fernandez

THERE ARE DAYS MADE for wearing dresses, days when every hair on your head is in place, your cheeks are perfectly flushed, and you feel like a million bucks. Then there are days when the best you can do is pull on a ratty pair of jeans, a shirt and a pair of sneakers, and pray you don't bump into anyone you know.

Clothing brand Kashieca recently launched Luxe, a premiere line of clothes that all types of women—from giggling *colegialas* to serious office girls to late-night party divas—can wear on all kinds of days.

Luxe, touted as Kashieca's prestige line, introduces more grown-up clothing to the brand, which used to be favored by sweet girl-next-door types. With more formal looks ideal for long days at the office, going out at night or simply hanging out with friends, the line now caters to a wider range of women.

Key pieces in this season's Luxe collection include satin tops and dresses as well as denim pants and jackets. Embellishments such as sequins, lace, buttons, appliqué and embroidery liven up otherwise plain shirts, while accent pieces like brooches, and large ribbons give character to everyday staples.

Preppy girls, for instance, can pair striped cropped pants with collared shirts and vests. Layering is key in creating the perfect preppy look, so try pairing tank tops with blouses with puffed sleeves; finish the outfit with short skirt, and you're good to go. More glamorous women, on the other hand, can opt to wear satin skirts with sequined tank tops.

Kashieca also has a line of satin tops great for a night out with friends, or that long-awaited first date. They look fab with long, chunky necklaces and glittery beaded purses.

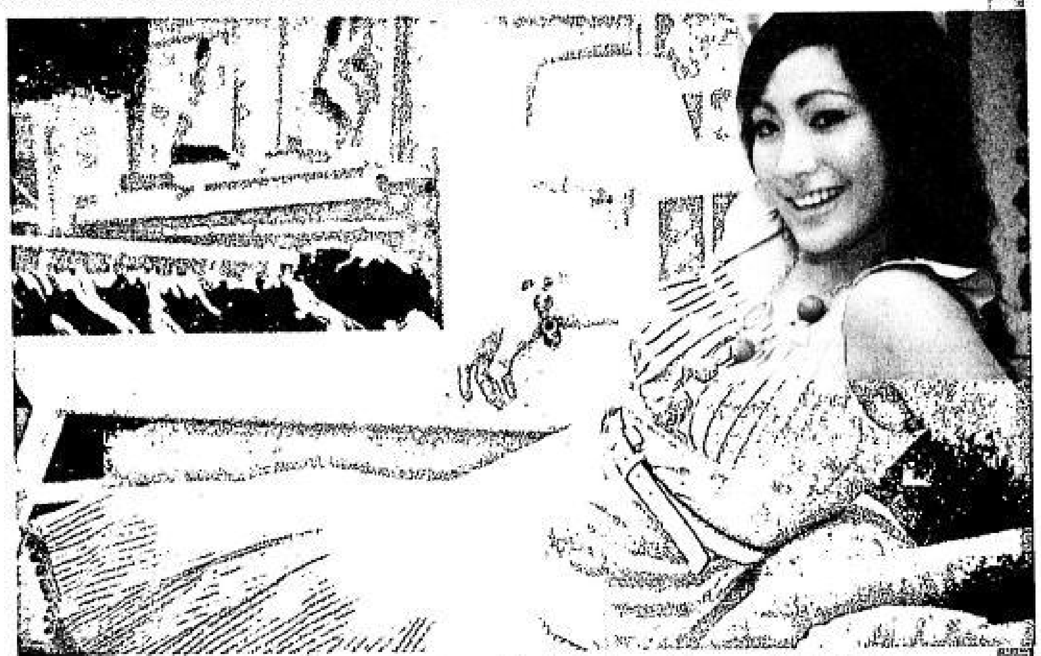
Of course, you can easily achieve a sweet, fresh vibe with the floral skirts, cotton blouses and flowing dresses that make up Kashieca's signature line. However, the brand has added a jolt of excitement to the look by including mannish details, such as traditional long-sleeve pinstripe shirts. Ruffles and appliqués make them "hers," as opposed to "his."

Kashieca also carries accessories such as chunky, beribboned necklaces; large cocktail rings and coquettish beaded bags. So as not to alienate women with not-so-girly sense of style, the pieces are versatile and can be matched with other fashion styles.

Kashieca is located at Ayala Center-Glorietta, Alabang Town Center, Robinson's Ermita, Robinson's Galleria, Rockwell, Gateway Mall Cubao, Shangri-La Mall Edsa, SM Manila, SM Mall of Asia, SM North Edsa, SM San Lazaro, SM Southmall, Podium and TriNoma.

Kashieca will unveil its latest collection in a fashion show with new endorser Bea Alonzo on Aug. 18, 4 p.m., at the TriNoma Activity Center.

FLOWER POWER. Printed floral dress and wooden necklace



RHAPSODY in blue. Sleeveless cotton top with pleated neckline and ruffled straps, striped blue and white skirt with tassels, white faux leather belt, beaded necklace, and bracelet.

EASY does it. button-down yellow polo, loose purple shirt, striped blue shorts and amber bead necklace

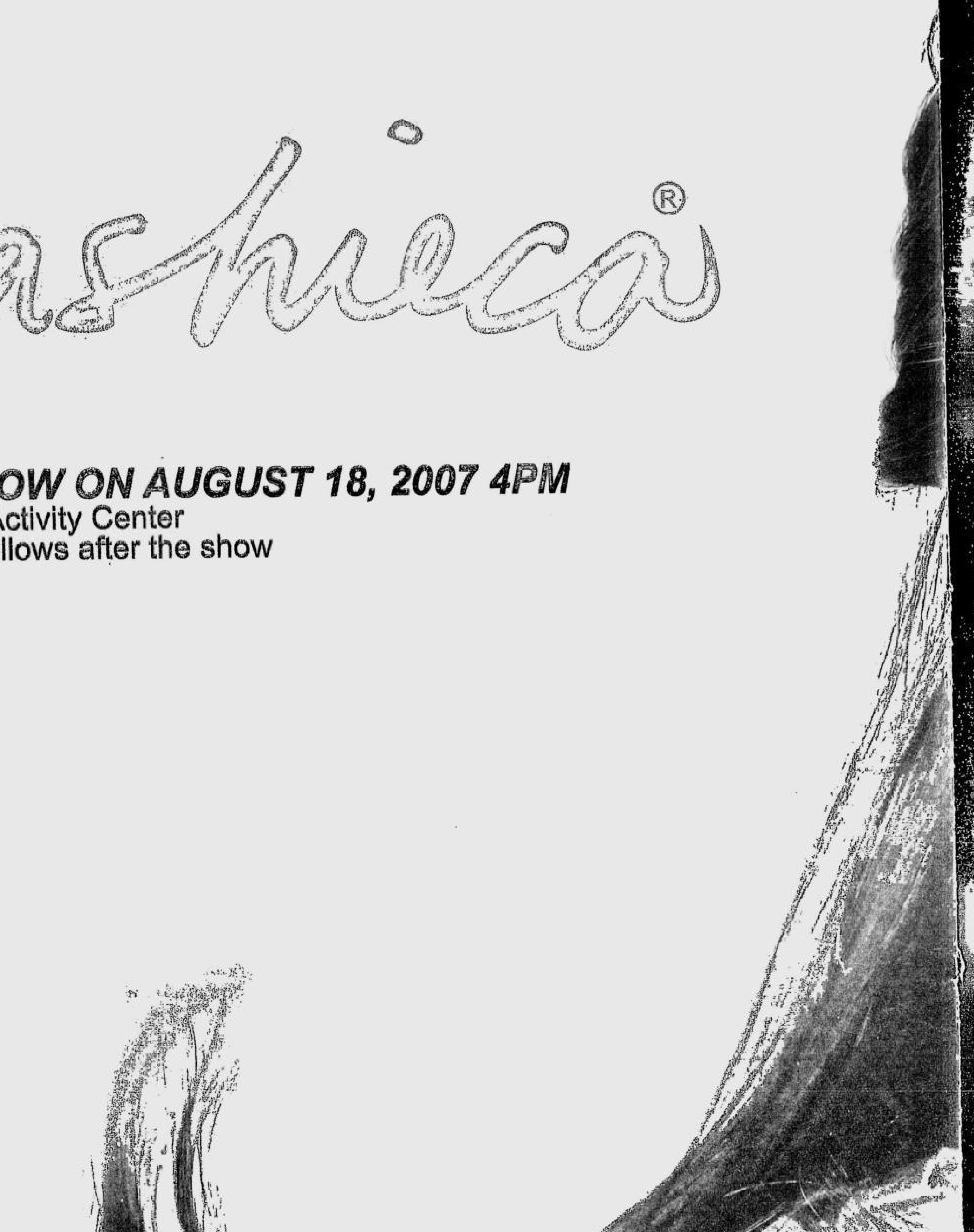
PREP SCHOOL. On Kat: striped cropped pants, red polo shirt, tan shrug with floral brooch and white faux leather belt

GO NAUTICAL. Striped blue shorts, white cotton shirt with puffed sleeves, embellished tank top, and metal-and-ribbon necklace

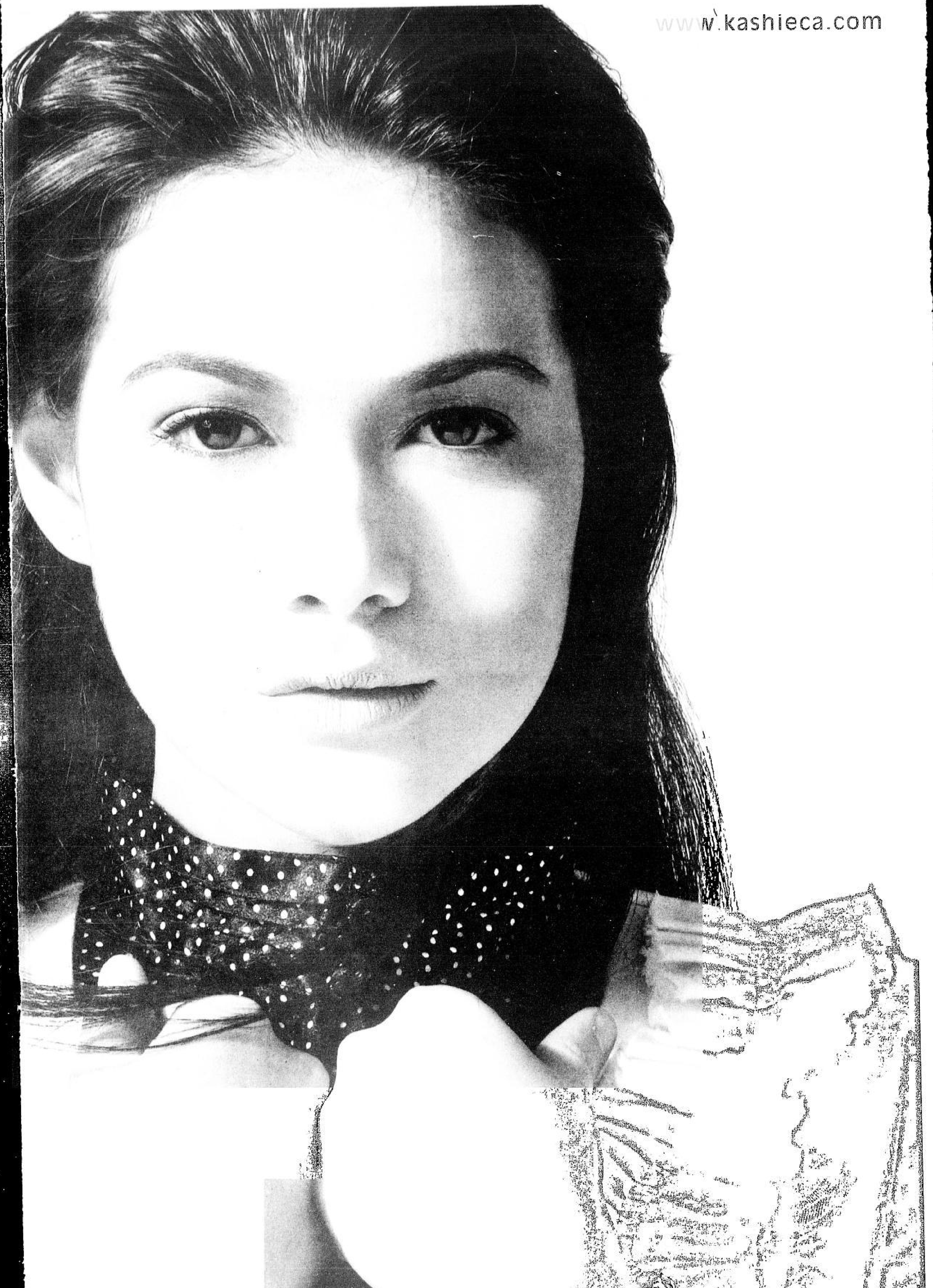
BROWNIE BABY. Brown satin polka-dot skirt, cotton bubble skirt and bead necklace

Kashieca®

FASHION SHOW ON AUGUST 18, 2007 4PM
at the TriNoma Activity Center
Meet and Greet follows after the show



Alabang Town Center • Ayala Cebu • Glorietta2 • Gateway • Podium • R
SM Clark Pampanga • SM Centerpoint • SM Mall of Asia • SM Manila • S



www.kashieca.com

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Country living, almost

CLOCKWISE: countryside-inspired interiors; sandals perched on a book; shirts are laid out; floral lampshades; home decor is mixed with clothing.

STEPPING INTO THE KASHIECA stores is almost like walking into a house in the English countryside—there are rustic, whitewashed cabinets, canvas lampshades, old books scattered around the brightly-lit area, and squashy armchairs here and there. The walls are covered with floral-patterned paper, which completes the English cottage theme.

But take a second look, and you'll get the impression that you're in a quaint little boutique in a big, swinging city, thanks to unusual paintings and large gilded frames. The store is a curious mix of gothic elements and little-girl details, but somehow, the concept works.

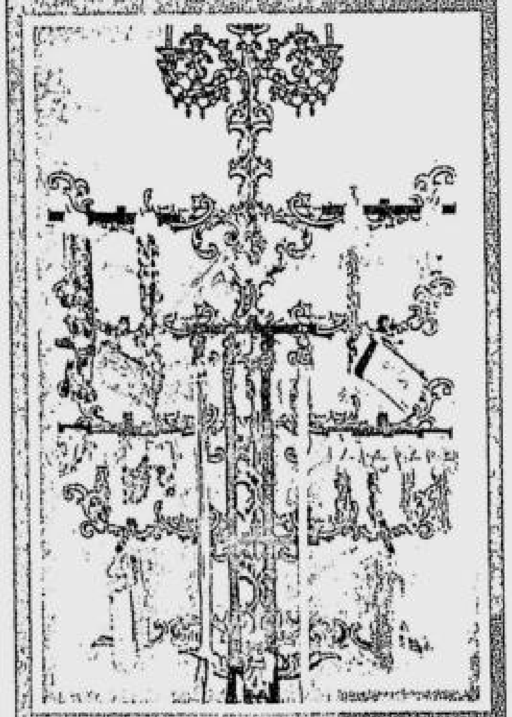
Little details lend character and charm to each branch of Kashieca. There's a painting of a woman in a classic little black dress with a molded arm stretched out to carry a beaded bag. Open bureaus reveal neatly folded shorts and shirts. Overhead lamps are covered with pink paper cutouts that look like lace. Metal mannequins carry bead necklaces around their necks. Hatboxes tied with ribbons and bargain-bin books are stacked inside cabinets.

Even ordinary accessory pegs are given life with painted backgrounds that make the necklaces, belts and bracelets look like they're hung from a wrought iron chandelier.

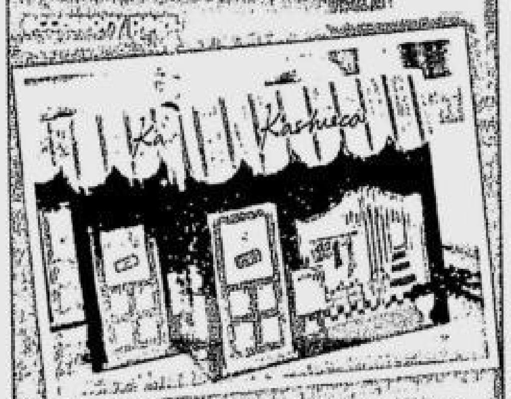
The store makes use of wood in various forms. There are whitewashed cabinets, pink and white painted dressers and wood paneling in the areas not covered by wallpaper. All these contribute to the cozy, homey feel of the store. Almost as if you can grab a book from one of the shelves and curl up on the sofa while the staff rings up your purchases.

Bianca Consunji

E-mail the author at biancaconsunji@yahoo.com



A PAINTED chandelier [illegible]



EVEN the packaging of the products is charming and cute

Style is what you choose
Kashieca
Fashion fades Style is eternal

KASHIECA [illegible]

natural story
Su Hyang Snow
Bright and Glowing like Snow Crystal
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Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**
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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3308, Series of 2007

Giving away over $1M at lunch

It's easy for the H'wood Foreign Press Association, whose trick is to invite A-listers like Charlize Theron, Hilary Swank and Jamie Foxx

JOSH Brolin, who received a check on behalf of FilmAid International, kisses a surprised Jamie Foxx.

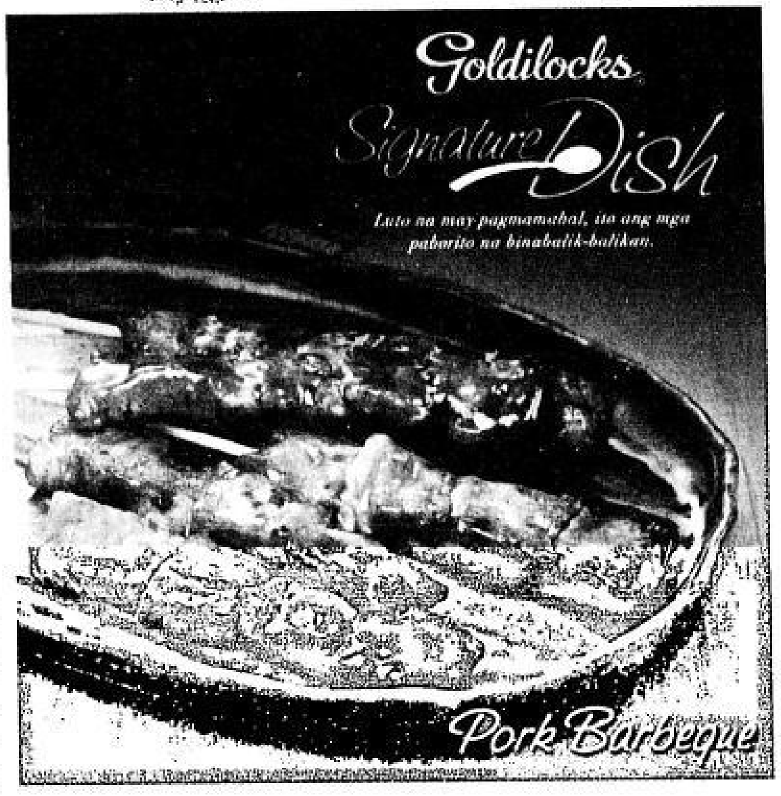
ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—HOW DO YOU GIVE away $1,200,435 to film schools and non-profit groups at lunch in Beverly Hills?

Simple. You just invite several Hollywood A-listers like **Charlize Theron, Hilary Swank, Jennifer Lopez** and **Jamie Foxx** to either announce the grants or accept the checks on behalf of the recipients. Then you hope that these stars provide the fun, glam quotient and not turn the lunch into a very serious affair because giving away big checks to worthy recipients is serious business

GIVING/12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BLADES OF GLORY

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"Puts a goofy smile on your face"
- The Hollywood Reporter

Blades of Glory is a comedic farce that takes on the world of figure skating. The film stars Will Ferral (*Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*) as Chazz Michaels and Jon Heder (*Benchwarmers*) as Jimmy MacElroy, two competitive figure skaters who, banned from competing in the men's single competition a few years back, are convinced to compete in the pairs skating category - with each other!

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8 RUSH HOUR 3
9 OUIJA
10 BLADES OF GLORY
11 RISE
12 A LOVE STORY

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 SURF'S UP
3 A LOVE STORY
4 A LOVE STORY
5 OUIJA
6 RUSH HOUR 3
7 RATATOUILLE
8 RISE
9 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
10 A LOVE STORY
11 SIMPSONS MOVIE
12 BLADES OF GLORY

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749
1 RISE
2 A LOVE STORY
3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 RUSH HOUR 3
5 RATATOUILLE
6 SURF'S UP
7 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
8 A LOVE STORY
9 OUIJA
10 HARRY POTTER 5
11 BLADES OF GLORY
12 SINKING OF JAPAN

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RISE
3 A LOVE STORY
4 SURF'S UP
5 RUSH HOUR 3
6 HARRY POTTER 5
7 BLADES OF GLORY
8 SIMPSONS MOVIE
9 OUIJA
10 RATATOUILLE

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 RISE
4 SURF'S UP
5 OUIJA
6 A LOVE STORY

SM SOUTHMALL 806-6888
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
5 BLADES OF GLORY
6 OUIJA
7 SURF'S UP
8 RISE
9 RATATOUILLE

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SURF'S UP
4 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY MANILA 523-9240
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RISE
3 A LOVE STORY
4 RUSH HOUR 3
5 SURF'S UP
6 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
7 THREE
8 BLADES OF GLORY
9 A LOVE STORY
10 OUIJA
11 HARRY POTTER 5
12 RATATOUILLE

SM CITY DASMARIÑAS (046)4323201-04
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SURF'S UP
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 A LOVE STORY
4 SURF'S UP

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1 SURF'S UP
2 A LOVE STORY
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

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7 OUIJA
8 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45
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2 SURF'S UP
3 OUIJA
4 BLADES OF GLORY
5 A LOVE STORY
6 LICENSE TO WED

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1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SURF'S UP
4 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04
1 BLADES OF GLORY
2 A LOVE STORY
3 FRACTURE
4 SURF'S UP

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)0637681-85
1 OUIJA
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 LICENSE TO WED
4 SURF'S UP
5 BLADES OF GLORY
6 A LOVE STORY

SM CIY LIPA (043) 784-0187
1 SINKING OF JAPAN
2 BLADES OF GLORY
3 A LOVE STORY
4 SURF'S UP

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80
1 A LOVE STORY
2 BLADES OF GLORY
3 FRACTURE
4 SURF'S UP

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SURF'S UP
4 BLADES OF GLORY

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3160
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SURF'S UP
4 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5349811
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 LICENSE TO WED
3 SURF'S UP
4 A LOVE STORY

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 SURF'S UP
3 A LOVE STORY
4 A LOVE STORY
5 BLADES OF GLORY
6 RUSH HOUR 3

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1 BLADES OF GLORY
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SURF'S UP
4 RUSH HOUR 3

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1 RATATOUILLE
2 SURF'S UP
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 A LOVE STORY
5 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
6 BLADES OF GLORY
7 RESERVED
8 OSS 117

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3876
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 SURF'S UP
4 BLADES OF GLORY
5 A LOVE STORY
6 OUIJA
7 A LOVE STORY
8 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

SM CITY BACOLOD (034) 708 1010
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 SURF'S UP

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2 (DOLBY) RUSH HOUR - 3
3 (DOLBY) BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 (DOLBY) SURF'S UP
PREMIERE
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1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 SURF'S UP
3 A LOVE STORY
4 RUSH HOUR - 3

starmall EDSA-SHAW
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
3 A LOVE STORY
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) RUSH HOUR - 3
5 RESERVED

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthecity.com.ph
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1 A LOVE STORY
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 RUSH HOUR - 3
4 SURF'S UP

THEATRES
1 RUSH HOUR - 3
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SPIRIT TRAP

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Pacific Mall Lucena Tel (042) 660-8271
1 A LOVE STORY
2 OUIJA
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

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(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR - 3
3 A LOVE STORY
4 A LOVE STORY
5 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
6 RUSH HOUR - 3
7 SURF'S UP
8 OUIJA
9 RATATOUILLE
10 RISE

Blue Wave MARIKINA
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
1 (DOLBY) A LOVE STORY
2 (DOLBY) RUSH HOUR - 3
3 (DOLBY) SURFS UP
4 (DOLBY) RESERVED

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 7334228
1 (DOLBY) BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 A LOVE STORY
5 RUSH HOUR - 3

THE MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 A LOVE STORY
2 OUIJA
3 CASA
4 THREE

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3210 / 833.3274
1 A LOVE STORY
2 SURSF UP
3 RUSH HOUR - 3

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 SURSF UP

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 LICENSE TO WED
3 SURSF UP
4 A LOVE STORY

Centre Plaza Cinema
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1 A LOVE STORY
2 OUIJA

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2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 SURSF UP
4 A LOVE STORY

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Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

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3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4

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1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 OUIJA
2 A LOVE STORY
3 CASA

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 OUIJA
2 A LOVE STORY
3 PREMONITION
4 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE

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2 A LOVE STORY
3 SURFS UP

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
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2 OUIJA

Lianas Cinema
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1 SINKING JAPAN
2 OUIJA

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(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 OUIJA
2 MATAMIS HANGANG DULO
3 SALAT SA LIGAYA
4 LICENSE TO WED

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
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2 KAINAN SA HIGHWAY
3 SURF'S UP
4 OUIJA
5 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 CASA
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SINKING JAPAN
4 SURF'S UP

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
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2 HAYOP SA PORMA

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MARC Anthony and Jennifer Lopez flank Emmy and Golden Globe winner Christine Lahti, who collected a $100,000 check for the Sundance Institute's program to help nurture international filmmakers.

Giving away over $1 million

From page 11

enough in itself.

And so last week, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association did just that in its annual installation of the group's new officers and announcement of grants. We're proudest of the association during this time. This is when we give back not only to Hollywood but to the rest of the film world community, especially to help nurture young talents.

> ...Jamie just could not get over one short green dress—Charlize's

In the last 13 years, the association has given more than $7.7 million. Peter Falk, onstage to receive a $50,000 check for fellowships at the Columbia University School of the Arts, asked, "Where does the HFPA get all this money?" The answer is simple: from the TV rights to the Golden Globe Awards, which the association's members vote on and stage every January. As incoming president Jorge Camara said, "We are thrilled that the success of the Golden Globes allows us to be so generous."

The recipients are diverse—from the Sundance Institute, which nurtures emerging international filmmakers through screenwriting and filmmaking labs, to the FilmAid International, which trains refugee youth in Kenya to learn filmmaking skills such as scriptwriting and editing; from schools like Columbia, University of California, Los Angeles, New York University and the California Institute of the Arts, which offer scholarships to film students, to The Ghetto Film School, Inc. and several organizations that have education and job placement programs for inner-city youth.

Stunning stars

Now, let's get to the sidelights during the luncheon held at the Rodeo Ballroom of that legendary pink hotel on Sunset Boulevard, the Beverly Hills Hotel:

Charlize Theron, stunning in a short green **Stella McCartney** dress, collected a big check—$350,000—on behalf of **Martin Scorsese** and the other folks behind The Film Foundation, Inc. The actress expressed thanks that the association has donated more than $2 million over the years to restore and preserve the films of such iconic filmmakers as **Alfred Hitchcock** and **John Cassavetes.**

Currently being restored is the classic film about a young ballerina, "The Red Shoes." "Since I am a former ballerina, I am happy that 'The Red Shoes' is being saved," said Charlize.

"Don't look at my dress!" Charlize exclaimed. "It's really wrinkled!" But ladies' man Jamie Foxx, who helped announce some of the grants, apparently loved the short dress on the leggy actress that he even mentioned "the dress" when it was his turn to talk. Charlize groaned, slumped in her chair, threw back her head and gazed at the ceiling in a playfully exaggerated show of embarrassment. Jamie wore diamond stud earrings on both ears that sparkled in the spotlight.

The two Golden Globe and Oscar winners, who sat at the same table, should do a movie together. We think the screen will ignite with heat if that pairing ever happens.

Real-life pair

Jennifer Lopez and **Marc Anthony**, a real-life couple who has already made a movie together, "El Cantante," also presented grants. She was in a vintage beige mini dress while he was in a tan suit. The pair was interesting to watch onstage—they appeared to be really in love with each other. They looked very comfortable and were playful and affectionate. We like the effect Marc has on Jennifer. The diva seems relaxed and appears radiant, and even younger-looking these days.

Actor **Sam Elliott**, who will stick out in any crowd with his long silver hair and bushy mustache ("imagine Gandalf with a blunt bob," groused a reporter), also stood out with his sexy deep voice. Even Jamie admitted, "I love that voice."

FOREST WHITAKER

Hilary Swank, in a black dress and her hair in a pony tail, said that she was excited when she learned that she would announce the grants in education. She explained, "After playing a teacher in 'Freedom Writers,' I have a lot of empathy for teachers." She enthused about the prospect of "a new generation of film students." Later, when Hilary, Jamie and Charlize posed together for pictures, they formed a formidable troika of Oscar and Globe winners.

Christine Lahti, who accepted the $100,000 check for the Sundance Institute, quipped that on the red carpet line (yes, this has grown to be like a mini Golden Globes), all the media folks wanted to know was if she was planning a trip to the ladies' room. "I was ready to speak about the wonderful things that the HFPA and the Sundance Institute do," she said.

In the 1998 Globes, Christine was in the bathroom, flushing the toilet when somebody told her that she had just won the Best Actress in a TV Drama Series ("Chicago Hope").

Anecdotes

Tony Plana, who represented the National Association of Latino Independent Producers, Inc., tickled the crowd with a few anecdotes about being recognized more often in public since he started playing Ignacio Suarez in the hit TV show, "Ugly Betty." The most bizarre, he said, was a fan excitedly asking him, "Do you know who you are?"

GIVING/14

Body gives film grants for festivals with track record

By Marinel R. Cruz
(Conclusion)

DANTE MENDOZA'S "FOSTER CHILD," which was shown at Cannes International Film Festival in France in May, was among the first films to receive subsidies from the newly formed Festival Committee (FC) of the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP).

Films invited to compete at the Cannes, which the FC identified as a first-tier festival, could get a grant of up to P800,000. A film for exhibition in first-tier festivals could receive up to P600,000.

In the first tier are the festivals held in Cannes, France; Berlin, Germany; Venice, Italy; Toronto, Canada; Utah (Sundance) and New York (New Directors/New Films) in the US.

"KADIN"

But the FDCP-FC is willing to subsidize a film beyond one festival, "as long as the cost does not go beyond a certain limit," according to FDCP chair Jacky Atienza.

Atienza was referring to the pending request of Seiko Films, producer of "Foster Child," for subsidies to the Pusan and Locarno film fests, both in the second tier.

A film invited to compete in second-tier fests could get up to P600,000 in subsidy. If it is only up for exhibition, it could get as much as P400,000. The festivals in Rotterdam, Locarno, Los Angeles/IFP, New York, Montreal, Telluride, Tribeca, Pusan, Tokyo and London are all in the second tier.

Venice bet

Laverente Diaz's "Death of a Poet," which will premiere at the 32nd Toronto International Film Festival in September, was also subsidized by the FDCP-FC. Its request for subsidy to compete at the Venice film fest has also been approved. Toronto and Venice are both first-tier fests.

Adolf Alix Jr.'s "Kadin" competed at the recently Locarno International Film Festival, also in the second tier.

"Producers can also reimburse subtitling, travel and hotel expenses through the FDCP-FC, just like what we would do for 'Kadin.' Its subsidy was approved on Aug. 8," Atienza said. The festival in Switzerland ended on Aug. 11.

The San Sebastian, Seattle, Melbourne, Palm Springs, Bangkok, Deauville, Valladolid, Flanders, Sydney, Edinburgh, Karlovy Vary and South by Southwest international film fests belong to the third tier. Grants for films invited to these festivals—for competition or exhibition—are P400,000 maximum.

The FDCP-FC replaces the recently abolished International Film Festival Committee, which was also formed to assist films bound for festivals abroad. The three-member committee is chaired by Christine Dayrit, FDCP vice chair.

With the creation of the FDCP-FC, members of a film's creative pool—scriptwriters, designers, artists, cinematographers—can attend the festival along with the film's director and lead actor.

A maximum of five persons can join the trip, Atienza added.

Global exposure

"This is a way of exposing them to the latest trends in the global movie industry," the FCDP chair explained. "By knowing what the rest of the world is doing, the local film industry can become more competitive and proactive."

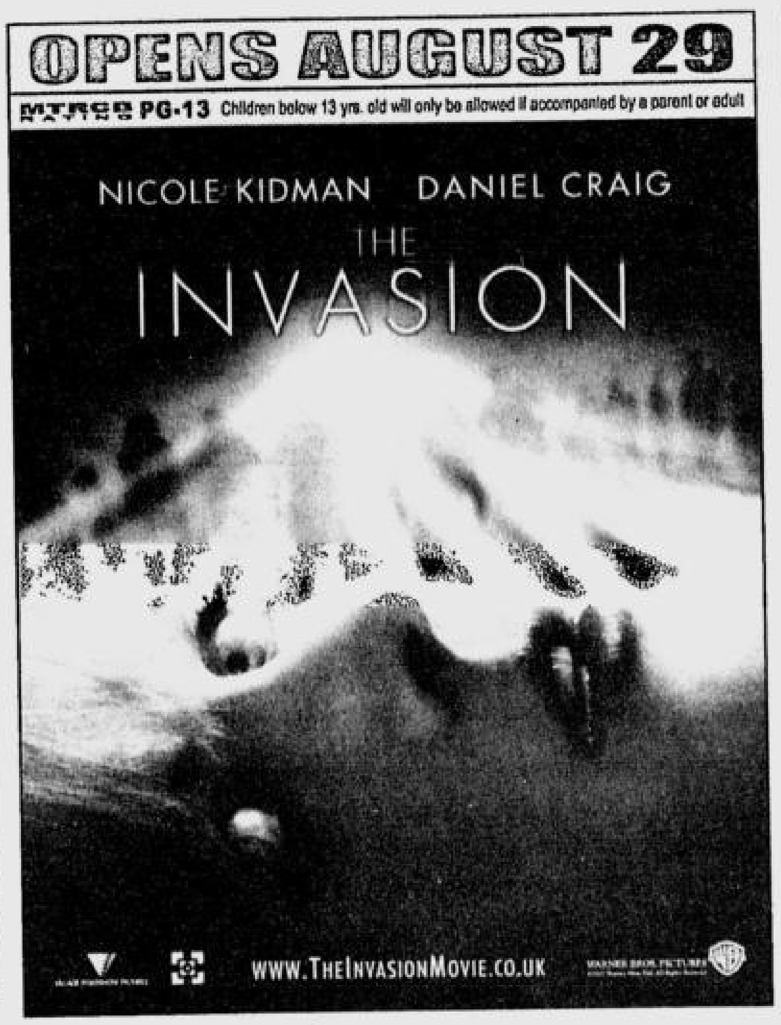
Atienza also announced the FDCP's inclusion in the Asian Film Commissions Network. This development is expected to increase the exposure of Asian films and filmmakers to the world's major studio and independent producers through international festivals and other events.

But details about their work with the AFCN is "still in the drawing board," Atienza said.

The FDCP-FC also supports locally produced film festivals like the recently concluded Cinemalaya Philippine Independent Film Festival and the ongoing Cinemanila International Film Festival.

"As a rule, we support local festivals with a track record," Atienza explained. "Cinemalaya has been operating very well, while Cinemanila has been around for nine years. If there's a new festival, we'll first assess its performance."

Also forthcoming is a partnership with the Cultural Center of the Philippines and the Marikina City government that would allow Marikina students to watch digital films for free. Atienza said they were still doing the math for the costs of showing a film for a weekend.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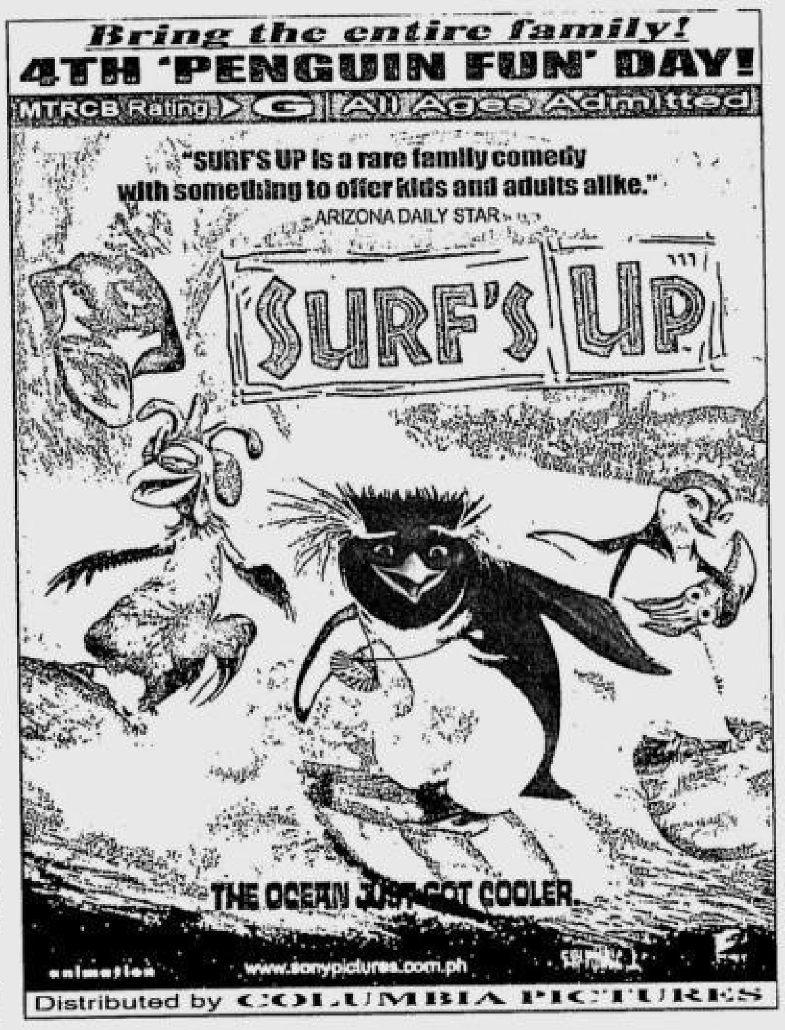
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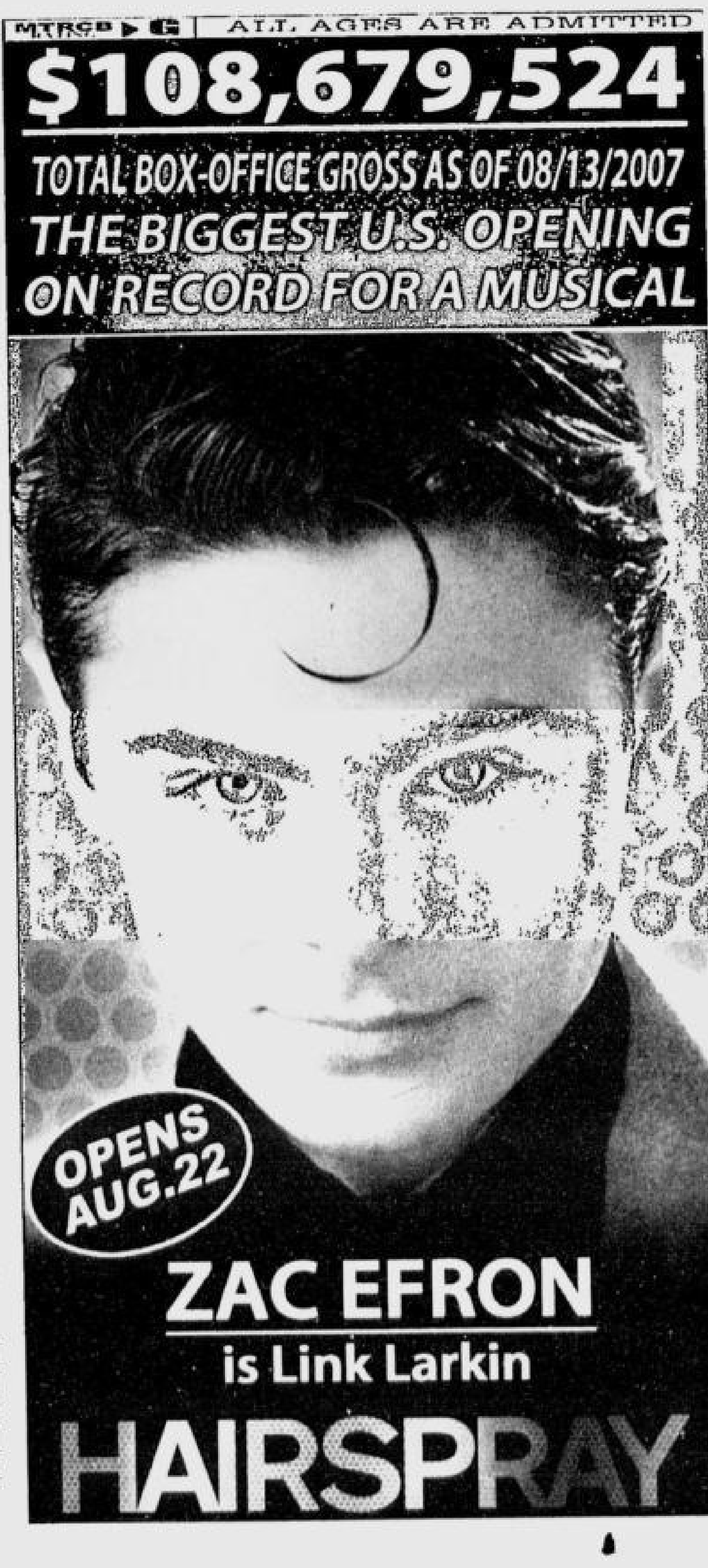
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1 RUSH HOUR 3 • THX 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00
2 A LOVE STORY 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
3 MOON RISE FILMFEST 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:15 7:45
4 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
5 SURF'S UP 11:25 1:30 3:35 5:40 7:45 9:50
6 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM 12:00 2:30 5:00 10:00
7 RISE 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00
8 RATATOUILLE 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30
9 OUIJA 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40
10 RUSH HOUR 3 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:30

ERMITA
1 A LOVE STORY 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00
2 OUIJA 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00
3 SURF'S UP 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00
4 MORENO 1:00 2:40 4:30 6:20 8:10 10:00
5 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM 12:35 3:00 5:25 7:45 10:00
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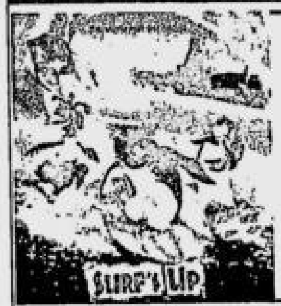
ACTIVITIES
AUGUST 17 (11:00AM) – SURF's UP Mall Show
*Dance Number *Meet & Greet / Photo Op with Cody
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1 SURF'S UP 12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10
2 A LOVE STORY 1:00 3:40 6:20 9:00
3 A LOVE STORY 10:20 1:00 3:40 6:20 8:20
4 RISE 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
5 RUSH HOUR 3 12:20 2:30 4:40 6:50 9:00
6 RATATOUILLE 12:45 3:30 6:15 9:00
7 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM 11:00 1:25 3:50 6:20 9:00
8 OUIJA 12:10 2:25 4:40 6:55 9:10

NOVALICHES Ticket Price P90 / P100 935-3231 / 935-3229-30
1 A LOVE STORY
2 SURF'S UP
3 RISE
4 RUSH HOUR 3
5 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
6 OUIJA

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1 A LOVE STORY 1:15 3:45 6:15 8:40
2 SURF'S UP 12:25 2:30 4:35 6:40 8:40
3 RUSH HOUR 3 12:00 2:10 4:20 8:30
4 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM 1:00 3:30 6:00 8:30

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2 A LOVE STORY
3 SINKING OF JAPAN
4 CASA

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2 A LOVE STORY
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4 RUSH HOUR 3

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2 A LOVE STORY
3 LICENSE TO WED
4 SURF'S UP

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1 OUIJA
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SIMPSONS

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6 SURF'S UP

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3 A LOVE STORY
4 SURF'S UP
5 BUG
6 RESERVE

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1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 SURF' UP
4 RUSH HOUR 3
5 CAPE KARMA
6 OSS 117

Giving away over ...

From page 12

Forest Whitaker, this year's Oscar and Golden Globe Best Actor, came to collect the grant for Film Independent. He gave us an update on his film, "Repossession Mambo," where he will demonstrate his mastery of *kali*, the Filipino martial art that he has been learning as a hobby.

Presidential cousin and TV host **Billy Bush**, who is usually on the media line, was in front of the spotlight this time as he got a check for Lollipop Theatre Network, of which he is a board member. Later, he was quoted saying of the grant to Lollipop, which holds screenings for pediatric patients in hospitals, "This opened some star and studio eyes which will help us get more entertainment to more children who can't get away from the hospital to see it on their own. What an awesome day!"

CHARLIZE Theron arrives in green at the Beverly Hills Hotel.

Also present was **Masi Oka**, a Golden Globe nominee for the compelling TV series, "Heroes," who came on behalf of American Cinematheque. The grant was for the institution's annual screening and discussion with the directors whose films are nominated in the Golden Globe's Best Foreign Language Film award.

Robotic reading

While most of the stars who spoke flubbed at certain points while reading from the teleprompter (the goofs made the luncheon a relaxed, amusing affair), Masi was error-free. He exaggerated his flawless teleprompter reading skills to comic effect by reading from one teleprompter to another smoothly, like a news anchor reading the day's top stories perfectly, though in a robotic way. He had the crowd in stitches.

Also present at the luncheon, which the Hollywood Reporter dubbed as the unofficial kickoff to the awards season (owing to the presence of so many award shakers and movers), were sultry **Eva Mendes**, **Kate del Castillo** (for Inner-City Arts) and **Zoe Zaldana**.

Easily the most amusing sidelight was **Josh Brolin**, who admitted to being nervous when he came onstage for FilmAid International. He suddenly walked up to Jamie, who was standing by, and kissed him. As Jamie smilingly wiped off the wet one that Josh planted on his cheek, Josh deadpanned, "If you're not into it, that's okay." Then he jogged briefly to work off his jitters. "I am so nervous," said Josh, who may finally get some overdue critical and award recognition for his work on the coming Coen brothers movie, "No Country for Old Men."

Jamie joked, "Thank you (Josh) for coming out. I mean coming out to this event."

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com and read his blog, "The Nepales Report," on www.inquirerbloggers.net/nepalesreport.

EVA Mendes on the red carpet

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SURFS UP 12:20 / 2:30 / 4:40 / 6:50 / 9:00
RUSH HOUR 3 1:10 / 3:20 / 5:30 / 7:40 / 9:50
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
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3:00 / PARIS JE T'AIME	3:30 / GOODBYE BAFANA	2:00 / THE EDGE OF HEAVEN
5:30 / SHOTGUN STORIES	8:00 / THE RAVAGERS	4:30 / JUAN BAYBAYIN
7:30 / PARIS JE T'AIME	10:00 / RESERVOIR DOGS	7:00 / PERSEPOLIS
10:00 / FAY GRIM		9:00 / YOUNG CINEMA NIGHT

ALIMALL 5
1 RISE 12:00 / 2:10 / 4:20 / 6:30 / 8:40
2 RUSH HOUR 3 12:05 / 2:15 / 4:25 / 6:35 / 8:45
3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM 12:30 / 3:00 / 5:3 / 8:00
4 OUIJA BOARD 12:30 / 2:30 / 4:30 / 6:30 / 8:30
5 A LOVE STORY 1:15 / 3:45 / 6:15 / 8:45
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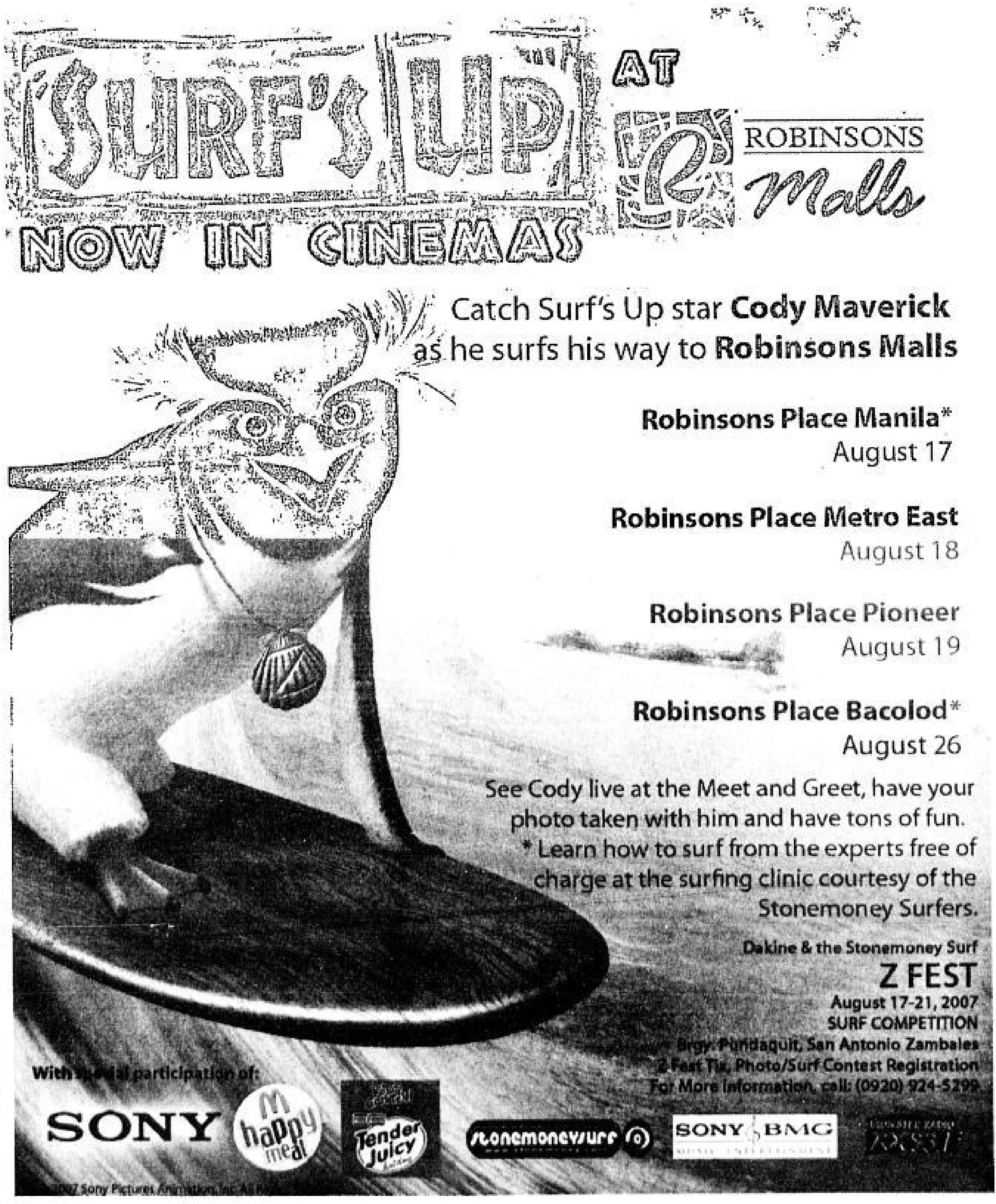
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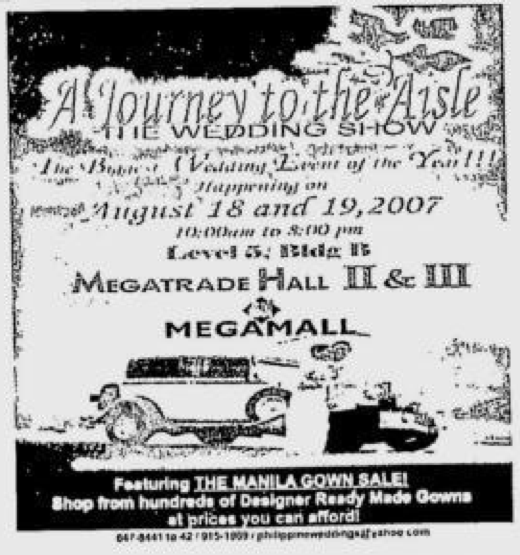
NO CHALLENGE DAUNTING ENOUGH
Boxing, figure skating and, now, acting. Ina Feleo doesn't stop till she's the champ. She just won Best Actress at the Cinemalaya International Film Festival, though this one's more or less a given. Her parents are movie stalwarts Laurice Guillen and Johnny Delgado. Out of the Closet/J4. ROMY HOMILLADA



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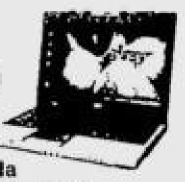

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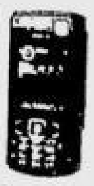

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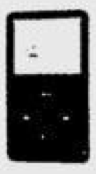

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Irma V. Cariño
Blk 1, Lot 4,5,6 Orientville Subd., Bagong Nayon St., Cantalay, Biñan, Laguna
Florence A. Castro
B3 L3 Primrosa St., Executive Subd., Novaliches, Q.C.
Olivia G. Almodovar
B7 L27 Sta. Rosa de Lima Subd., Ibaba, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
Jose M. de Guzman Jr.
B1 L34 CH Woodsrow I, Talon, Las Piñas City
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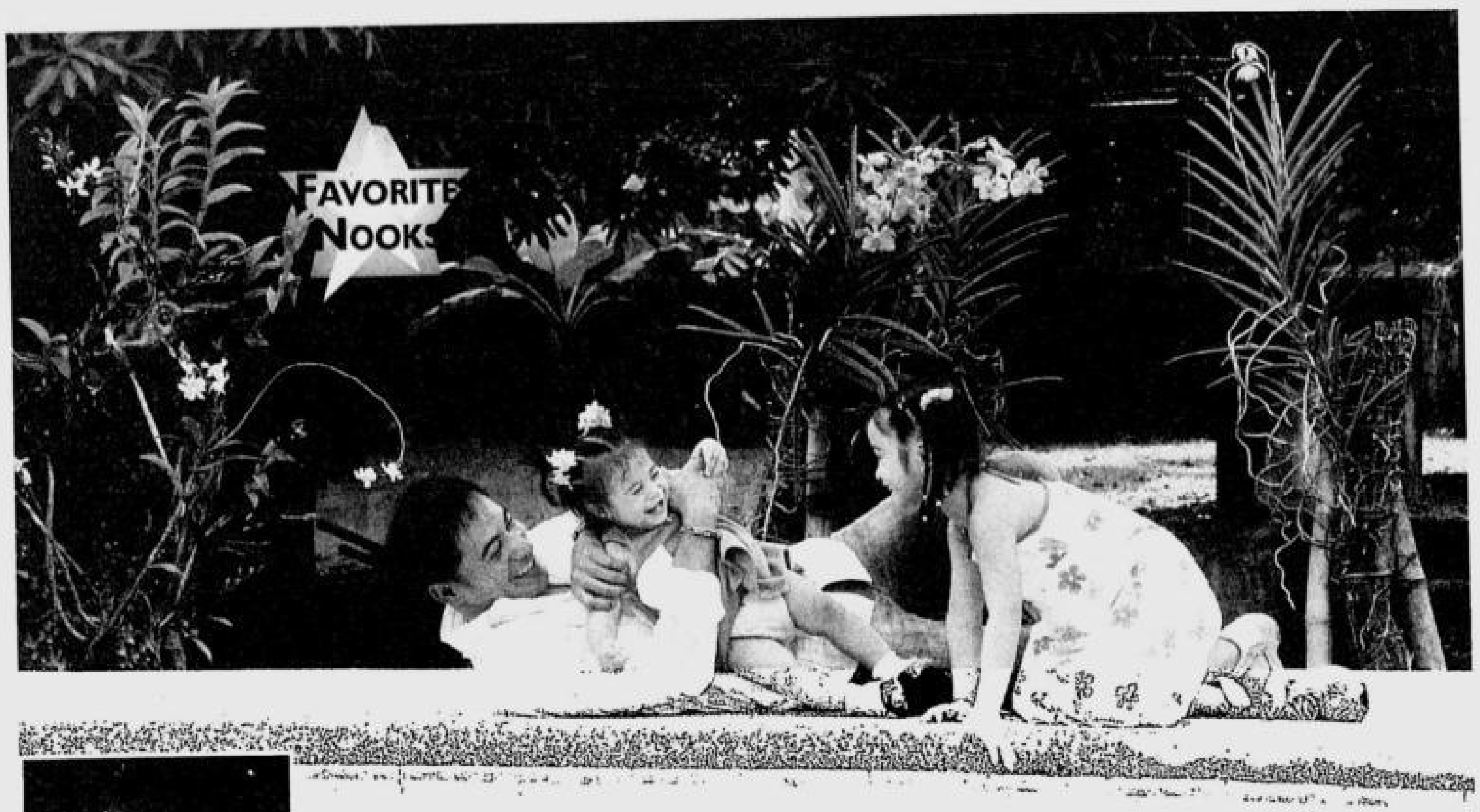

CESAR MONTANO

My kids and I love staying in our rest house in Bulacan. Whenever I tell them that we are spending the weekend here, they get very excited. The two older ones (Angelina Isabelle and Samantha Angelene, in photo) know how to swim—in fact, they're swimming addicts. My wife Sunshine hates getting sunburned, but when I push her into the pool, she has no choice but to swim with us. I think the kids love it because they can run around and play here—unlike in the city where they are cooped up in the house the entire day. Here, they have a playground set. I teach them about nature, and about planting fruit trees like avocado and santol, and vegetables like eggplant and okra.

Bayani San Diego Jr.
PHOTO BY RYAN LIM

DJ DURANO

MY FRIEND AND ("WALANG Kapalit") co-star Piolo Pascual introduced me to the book "My Utmost for His Highest," by Scottish minister Oswald Chambers. Every day, I read it because it gives me spiritual guidance. It enlightens and reminds me about the things I should value. It teaches me how to cope with problems, how to deal with different people, how to approach life on a daily basis. It's about prioritizing and praising God above all else. I recommend it to others because it has helped a lot of people, including me, Piolo and Rica Peralejo.

Bayani San Diego Jr.
PHOTO BY ROGER CARPIO

BOOKS

RODERICK PAULATE

MY FAVORITE IS Deepak Chopra's "The Way of the Wizards: Twenty Spiritual Lessons in Creating the Life You Want." This book is so special to me that when I don't find it in my dresser I get restless. It simply says that there is no such thing as coincidence; that everything that's happening has a reason. I also enjoy reading "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren.

Marinel R. Cruz
PHOTO BY RYAN RAMOS (ABS-CBN)

AT THE CINEMAS

THX

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
GLORIETTA 1	RISE	THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	RUSH HOUR 3	A LOVE STORY			
GLORIETTA 4	A LOVE STORY	THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	THX THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM GUARANTEED SEATS	THE LOOKOUT	SURF'S UP	RUSH HOUR 3	THE SIMPSONS
GREENBELT 1	A LOVE STORY	THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM					
GREENBELT 3	THX THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM GUARANTEED SEATS	THX RUSH HOUR 3 GUARANTEED SEATS	RATATOUILLE GUARANTEED SEATS	SURF'S UP GUARANTEED SEATS	THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM GUARANTEED SEATS		
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	THX THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	A LOVE STORY	RUSH HOUR 3	SURF'S UP	THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM		
AYALA CENTER CEBU	THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	RUSH HOUR 3	A LOVE STORY	SURF'S UP			
MARKET! MARKET!	A LOVE STORY	SURF'S UP	THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	RISE	RUSH HOUR 3		
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AT THE MALLS

CONCIERGE HOTLINE NUMBERS:
Glorietta - 752 7272
Greenbelt - 757 4853 to 54
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; 772 1860
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc. 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519
TriNoma - 901 3000

Ayala Malls

glorietta	C2 Event August 18, 2007 at the Activity Center
GREENBELT	Shop & Travel at Greenbelt 1 Promo Get a chance to win exciting prizes and a trip for two to Boracay for every P300 worth of purchase at any Greenbelt 1 establishment from July 1 to September 30, 2007
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	Mechanical Action August 17 to 19; 11 am, 3 pm & 6 pm at the Activity Center
AYALA CENTER CEBU	Uyfang Kiosk August 3 to 30, 2007 at the AFEC Access
MARKET! MARKET!	Veggie Superkids August 18, 2007 at the Activity Center
Greenbelt Onstage	Repertory Philippines presents Disney's CINDERELLA Kids at REP's Globe Theater - Opens August 11, 2007 For inquiries, pls. call 887-0710
Ayala MUSEUM	Elements Photoconstructed Realities August 16 to 29, 2007 For more info, pls. call 757-7117 to 21 loc. 14 or email museum_inquiry@ayalamuseum.org
Tri Noma	BPI EPS Event August 12, 2007 at the Activity Center Job World Job Fair August 15 & 16, 2007 at the Activity Center

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Los Angeles Times
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... A SKILLFULL THRILLER."

Rolling Stone
"★★★★! A KNOCKOUT.
IT SPINS A WEB THAT WILL PULL YOU IN.
A thriller that really thrills."
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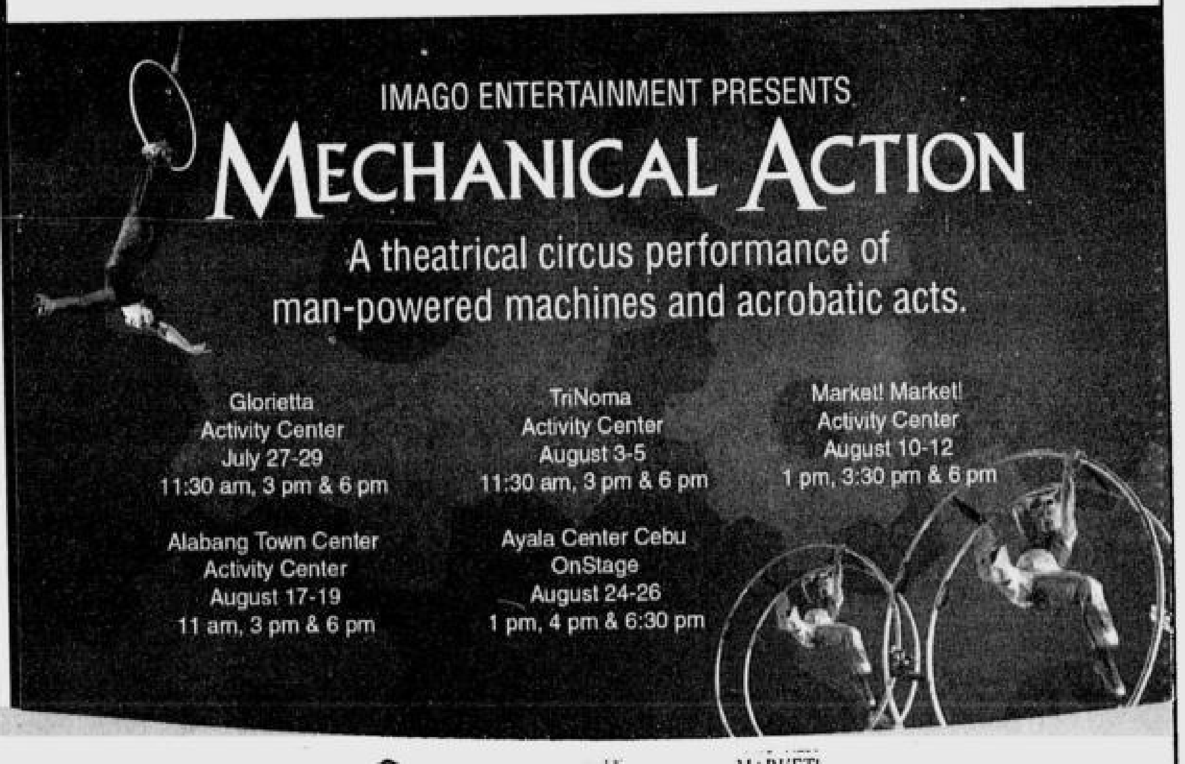
THE LOOKOUT
FROM THE SCREENWRITER OF OUT OF SIGHT AND GET SHORTY
MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13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Market! Market!
Activity Center
August 10-12
1 pm, 3:30 pm & 6 pm

Alabang Town Center
Activity Center
August 17-19
11 am, 3 pm & 6 pm

Ayala Center Cebu
OnStage
August 24-26
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glorietta GREENBELT ALABANG TOWN CENTER AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET! TriNoma

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Gary V performs tonight for PGH

GARY VALENCIANO WILL PERform in a fundraising concert for the Philippine General Hospital at the Manila Hotel tonight. The concert, titled "Handog ni Gary V sa PGH," aims to collect funds for the "modernization, rehabilitation and reinvention of the PGH."

The concert will also feature Karylle, The Powerplay, May Ann Soriano, Tricia Amper-Jimenez and Gary's sons Paolo and Gabriel Valenciano. "Handog ni Gary V sa PGH" is organized by the PGH Medical Foundation.

GARY Valenciano

GAEL Garcia, left, and Diego Luna AP

STARS FOR OTHERS

Leo lightens up

LOS ANGELES—Tired of global warming doom and gloom? Here's something new from Hollywood's king of green, Leonardo DiCaprio: There is hope for a brighter future.

Environmental activist DiCaprio's documentary "The 11th Hour" opens in US theaters today, and although the film starts with a bleak outlook on issues like global warming, much of the roughly 90-minute movie suggests ways to heal the environment with human, government and corporate action.

"It would have been pretty easy to make a film completely about doomsday scenarios, but people need to leave the theater and feel like they are somewhat responsible and make the simple choice to be active in the movement," DiCaprio said.

The 32-year-old star of "Titanic" lives in a solar-powered house and drives a hybrid car. *Reuters*

Gala for human rights

MEXICO CITY—"Y Tu Mama Tambien" stars Gael Garcia Bernal and Diego Luna said a gala dinner they are hosting tomorrow will raise money to support human rights and shine light on poverty and injustice in Mexico.

The US$300-a-plate meal in the capital will benefit Mexico's Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights as well as Witness, an organization founded by singer Peter Gabriel that promotes the use of video and film to document human rights abuses. *AP*

LEONARDO DICAPRIO AP

Stone raises AIDS funds

PARIS—Screen star Sharon Stone will head an AIDS gala fundraiser in Rome on Oct. 26, the first to be held during the Rome Film Festival, the amfAR Foundation said Friday.

The festival runs from Oct. 18 to 27.

Stone raised a record $7 million for AIDS research at this year's glittering star-studded soiree organized by amfAR at the Cannes film festival last May.

She kicked off an auction at the gala by selling off a vanity case she designed for a major luxury label for $95,000 while George Clooney took bids for a one-week cruise on a yacht—and a kiss from Clooney—that finally went for $375,000.

Elizabeth Taylor helped set up the amfAR foundation. *AFP*

Andy sings about snow

HONG KONG—Andy Lau says he was inspired to record a song about global warming for his new album "Miracle World" after a snowless movie shoot in China's west.

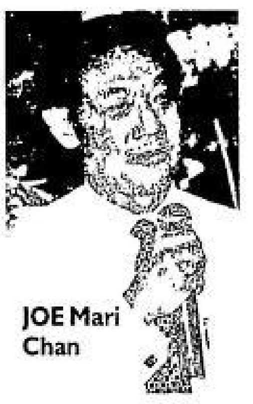
"I went to Dunhuang to shoot a movie. It should be snowing in February, but it wasn't. When we wanted to shoot snow scenes, we couldn't get any snow," Lau said on TV. *AP*

SHARON STONE REUTERS

Goodnight, Pete

THESE ARE SOME of the friends who refused to say goodbye to television and broadcast luminary Pete Roa, who died on Aug. 9. They gathered at his wake on Monday night to "celebrate his life" and say ... "Good night."

RIchard Merk



JOE Mari Chan

GARY Valenciano

WILLIE Nepomuceno

ANNIE Brazil

ROBERT Seña

ISAY Alvarez

ELIZABETH Ramsey

PILITA Corrales with the Wing Duo

NOEL Trinidad

BAYANI Fernando

EDDIE Garcia

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM MTRCB PG-13 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM MTRCB PG-13 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30
2 SURF'S UP MTRCB GP 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
4 A LOVE STORY MTRCB PG-13 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
PREMIERE THEATRE RUSH HOUR 3 MTRCB PG-13 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
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CINEMA 5 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM 11:05, 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:30 PG-13
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MUSIC MUSEUM	August 24 & 25, 2007	Ogie Alcasid & Regine Velasquez	8:00 PM
	September 15, 2007	Rico J. w/ Ruffa Mae	8:00 PM
TEATRINO PROMENADE GREENHILLS	Aug. 18, 24, 31, Sept. 7, 21, 28, 2007	Drag - Ons	10:00 PM
	Aug. 15, 22, 30, Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2007	Cerrudo Classico	8:00 PM

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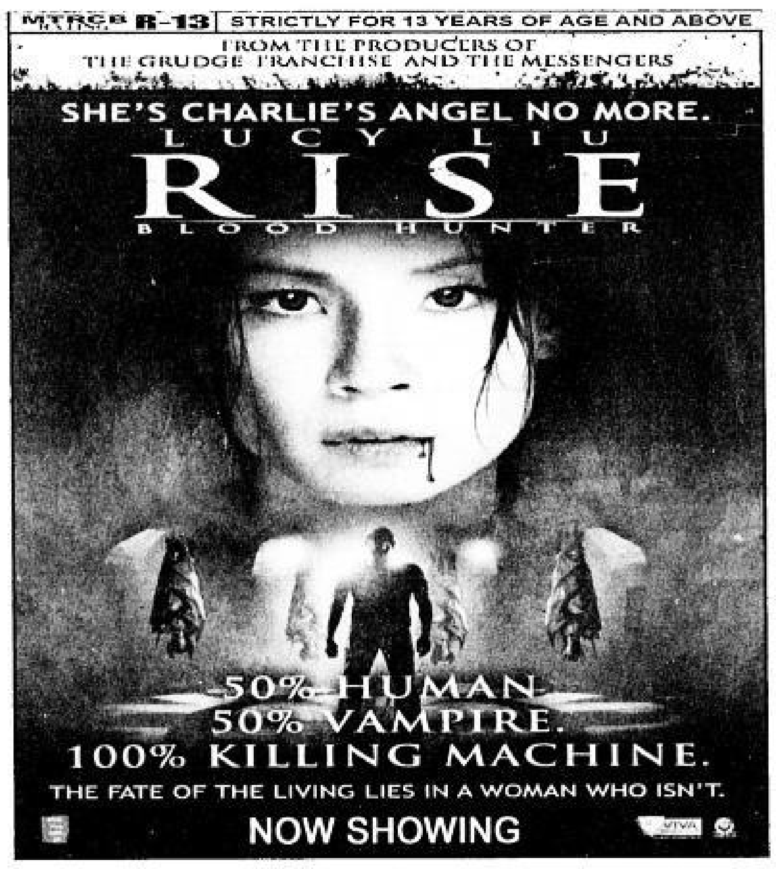
RUSH HOUR 3 PG13 1:40,3:50,6:00, 8:10,10:20	BOURNE ULTIMATUM PG13 1:00,3:30,6.00,8:30	SURF'S UP G 1:00,3:00,5:00, 7:00,9:00
A LOVE STORY PG13 12:10,2:40,5:10, 7:40,10:10	SURF'S UP G 12:00,2:00,4:00, 6.00,8:00	BOURNE ULTIMATUM PG13 12:30,3:00,5:30, 8:00,10:30

MOVIES & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE



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3 SURF'S UP 1:00, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50, 10:50 G
4 A LOVE STORY 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:10 PG-13

Rockwell's urban bazaar
...a storm of shopping selections!
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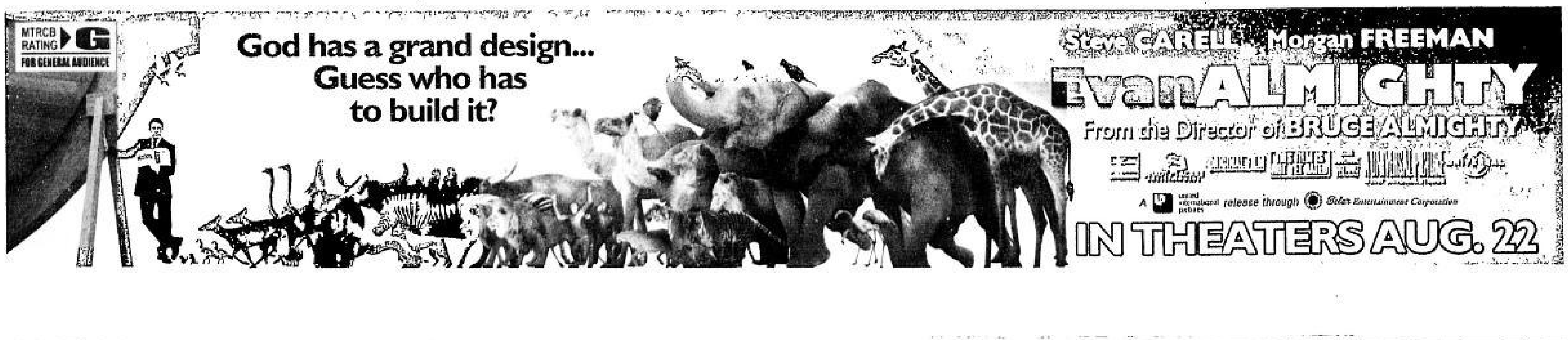

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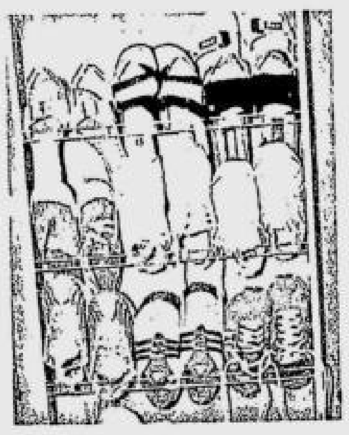
Guess who has to build it?
Steve CARELL Morgan FREEMAN
Evan ALMIGHTY
From the Director of BRUCE ALMIGHTY
A United International Pictures release through Solar Entertainment Corporation
IN THEATERS AUG. 22

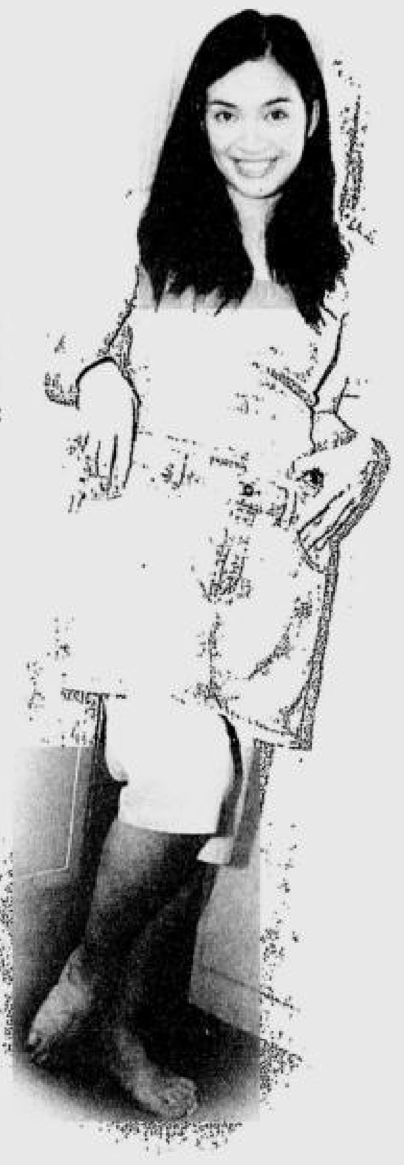
AS a theater actress, Ina was trained to put her own makeup and prepare her own costumes.

INA and her high-heeled shoes: She and her mom have the same shoe size.

HER swimsuits are great for sunbathing and surfing.



SHE loves rubber shoes but prefers flip flops during the rainy season.



HER favorite not-too-short mini skirt

OUT OF THE CLOSET

She hoards blush and bronzers

By Marinel R. Cruz
Photos by Romy Homillada

ACTRESS INA FELEO ADmits that though she's not big on shopping for clothes or shoes, a big part of her hard-earned cash goes to makeup and skin care.

"I hoard blush and bronzers," said Ina, this year's Cinemalaya Philippine Independent Film Festival Best Actress (for "Endo"). "Applying makeup cheers me up when I'm depressed," It's also my way of bonding with my sister Anna. We swap items."

Ina, daughter of actor-director Laurice Guillen and actor Johnny Delgado, has been a member of the Bayanihan Folkloric Group for five years now. It was through her friends in the theater group that she learned how to apply makeup. She explained: "We're trained to do our own faces and prepare our own costumes."

She used to join national competitions in figure skating, Ina said, but stopped when she joined the Bayanihan. "I've been traveling around the world with the group," she said. "We represent the Philippines in festivals in Europe, Asia and the Middle East. It's always exciting to meet important people."

Accessories

I buy accessories from all the countries I visit. I got this pair of chandelier earrings in the US. The other pair (with white stones) is from Germany.

HER all-time favorite tank tops—rain or shine.

The bronze pair is from Russia. The round ones are a gift from a friend who just came home from the States. I first wore it at the Cinemalaya awards show.

Cosmetics

My all-time favorite mascara is from Maybelline, my favorite powder is from Mac. For girls who are just about to buy make-up, make sure that the brand is not damaging to Filipina skin. It doesn't matter if they're expensive. At least you won't have to spend on dermatologist treatments.

It's also important that you choose a color that matches the shade of your skin. A common fashion blunder is wearing make-up that's too white.

MAKE-UP is where a big part of her hard-earned cash goes.

HER figure skating costumes

Costumes

I have a lot of skating costumes. This one (a green velvet piece) is memorable. I wore it when I competed in—and won— the national championship for the first time in 2000.

These costumes (black and red) were copied from the outfit of (American figure skater) Michelle Kwan. She's my favorite skater.

I designed this other piece myself. It looks like something an actress in a period film would wear.

When I travel with the Bayanihan, I wear a uniform much like what you see on stewardesses. It's a three-piece outfit composed of a blazer, button-down top and pencil-cut skirt.

Dresses

These dresses are special because I wore them to Cinemalaya Film Festival events. This one (a red peasant dress) I wore to the premiere of "Endo" and "Gulong." My character in "Gulong" wears a lot of red. I like this dress because it's simple and flowing.

I picked the other dress, which is similar in design to the other one, because my character in "Endo" loves the color green. I wore it to the awards show.

Tops

I love tank tops. I wear them even in the rainy season. I just put a jacket over a tank top when it's cold. I prefer plain tops because I like big accessories. When I feel like being girly or feminine, I wear silk blouses.

Bottoms

Since I have wide hips, there are certain types of jeans that don't work for me. I like wearing denims skirts more.

When I buy mini skirts, I make sure the length is just right. I really try on each one [before buying] to make sure it's not too short when I sit down. I like minis from F&H and People Are People. I also buy stuff from Greenhills, but they normally don't last long.

HER monkey stuffed toy, a gift from dad Johnny after she lost a skating competition

Swimwear

This swimsuit, my favorite, is from Billabong. I feel secure in it. I own a lot of bikinis but they don't fit me as well as this one. While the others are only good for sun bathing, this I can wear even while surfing. I first wore it when I went to Hawaii with the Bayanihan.

Shoes

I used to love sneakers. I'm past that phase now. I prefer flip-flops these days, especially because it rains a lot.

My oldest pair of rubber shoes is this white-silver number from Nike. I wore it for three straight months, while I trained for figure skating in the States. I don't use it anymore. I replaced it with another pair of Nikes. *Kawawa na kasi*.

I like really high-heeled shoes. My mom and I have the same shoe size, so we borrow from each other; in fact, this beaded pair is hers.

Toys

I threw away most of my stuffed toys after I watched "Bride of Chucky." The ones left behind are post-Chucky. The stuffed monkey is a gift from dad. He gave it to me when I lost in one skating competition. Look at how dirty my Barbie doll is. I still keep it because it's wearing a pair of skating boots.

Sports equipment

I've been on and off boxing for a year now. *Nakakapagod kasi*. When I'm into it, I train for three hours nonstop. I stopped going to the gym. I just work out here at home. I also keep myself fit by swimming.

INA'S Barbie doll wears a pair of skating boots.

INA, a creative writing graduate, shows off her book collection.

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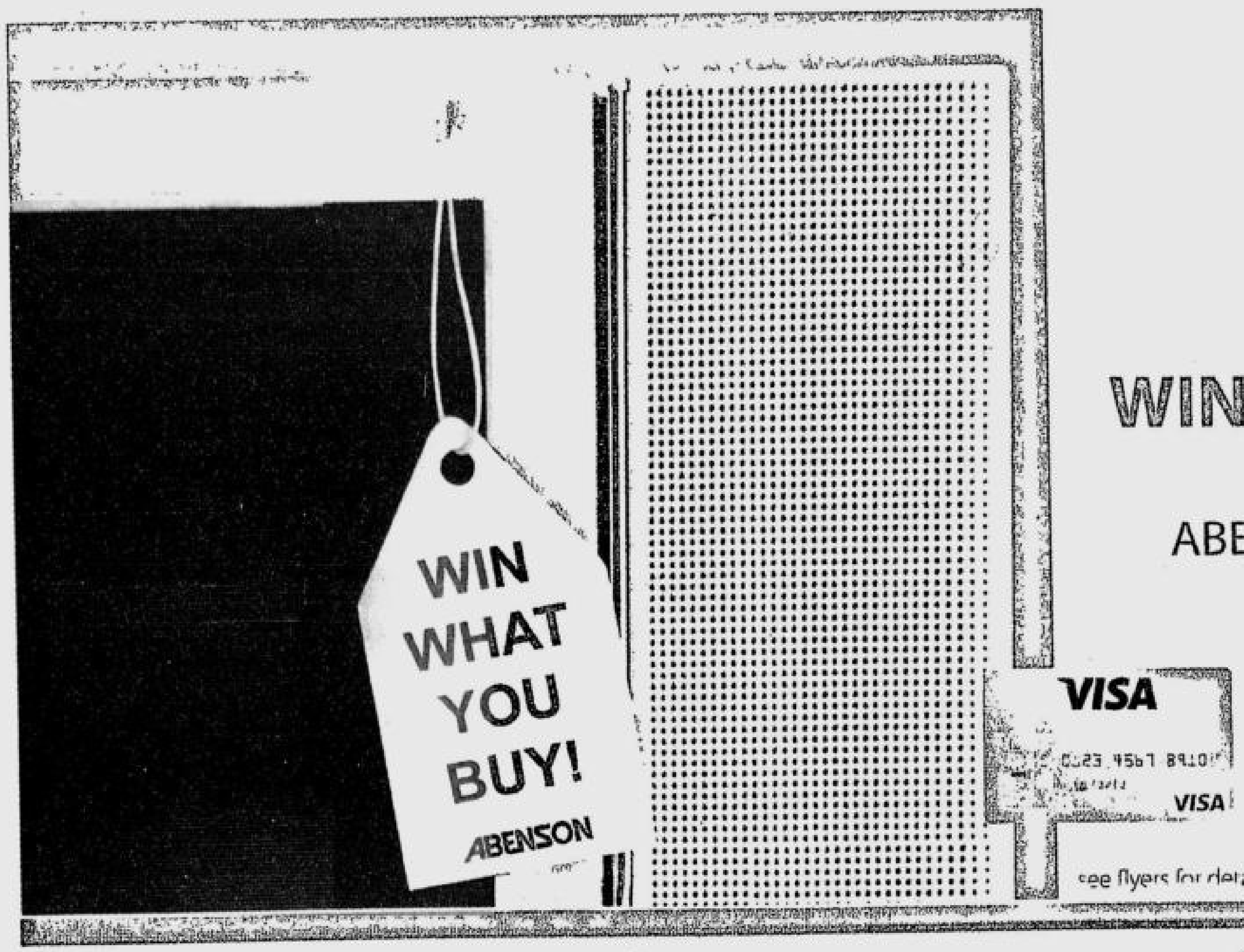
KICK SOME ICE
WILL FERRELL
JON HEDER
BLADES of GLORY

JEN ROSENDAHL

I have four Rotweilers. Arnold and Lara Croft stay with my parents in Batangas, but Blade and Billy are living with me in Manila. Blade is turning two, while Billy, Lara and Arnold's puppy, just turned four months old. Blade is very brave. He gives me total protection. When someone who's not so nice approaches me, he gets furious. Billy is *pasaway* (incorrigible) and *malambing* (affectionate). Billy even sleeps in my room. They're like my children; I spoil them so. I always take them out so that they'll get used to being around people. Apart from dog food, I also feed them papaya, *balut* and vegetables.

Bayani San Diego Jr.
PHOTOS BY JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN



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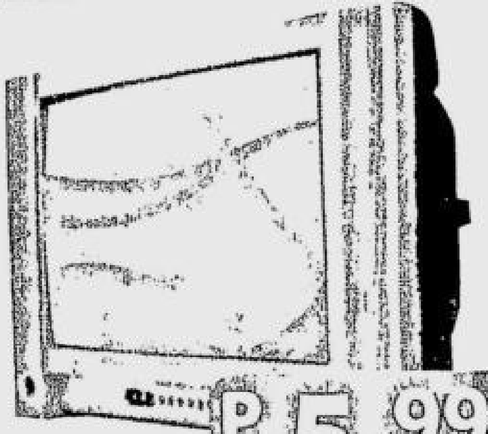

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SANYO
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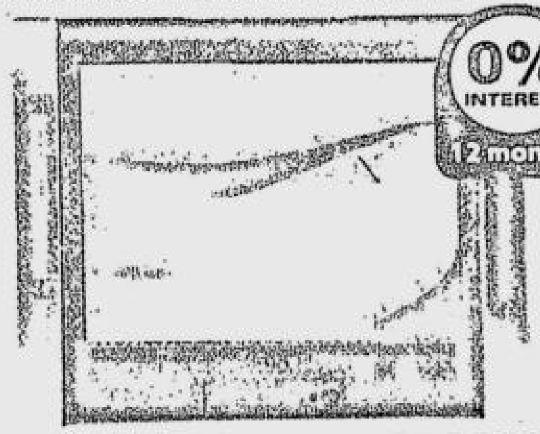
21" Conventional TV



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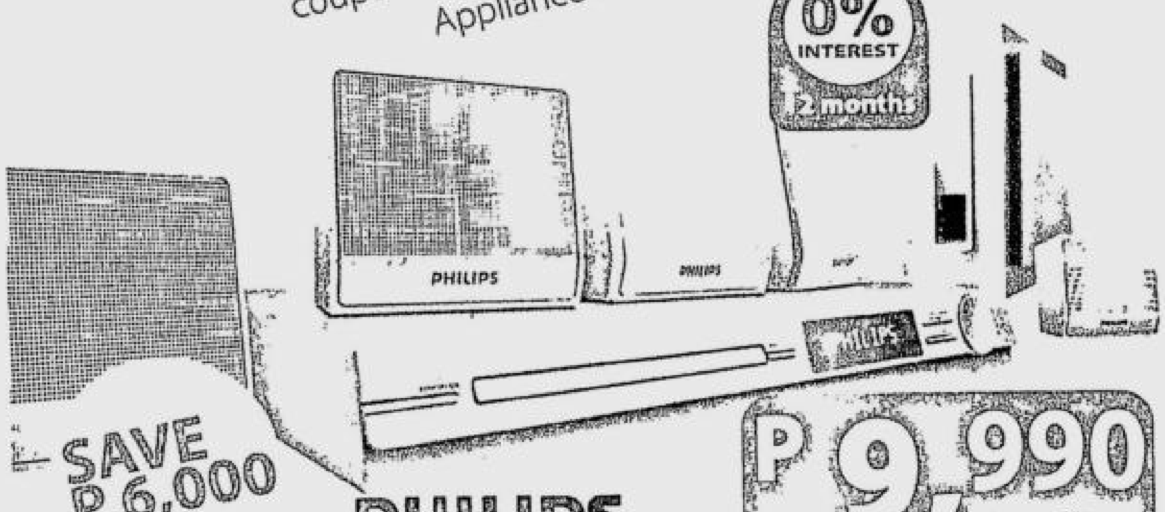

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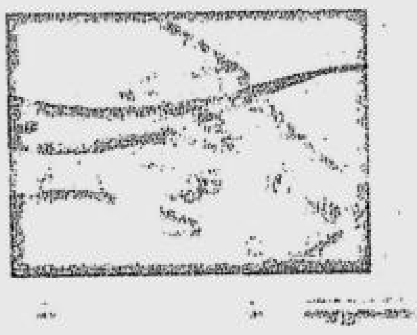

JVC
29BA16
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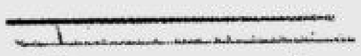

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CS/U-XC12EKQ
1.5" HP
Wall Mounted

NOW: P 30,499

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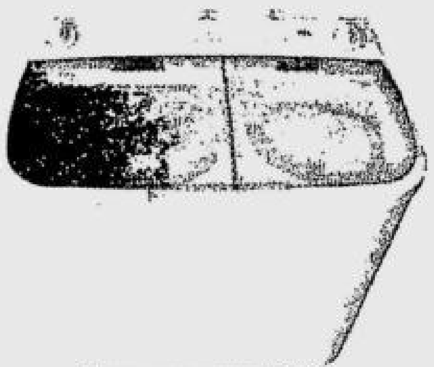

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Plays DVD-video/DVD-R/RW, VCD,MP3,CD/WMA,Jpeg and DIVX,Karaoke Function

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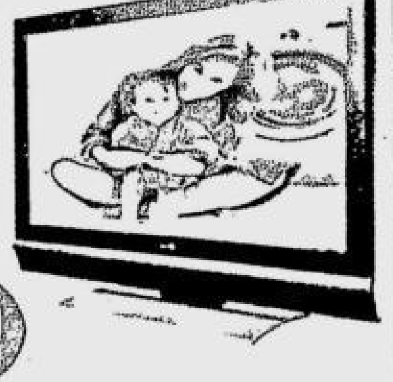
LG Life's Good

PROMO



42LC2RR
XD Engine, 3D Comb-filter
1,600:1 Contrast Ratio
Quick Response time: 8ms
Peak brightness: 500cd/m2
Wide Viewing Angle: 178 deg
HDMI Interface
Surround MAX (10W x 2)
Time Machine (42LC2RR)

P 179,999

42LC3R
XD Engine, 3D Comb-filter
3,000:1 Contrast Ratio
Quick Response time: 8ms
Peak brightness: 500cd/m2
Wide Viewing Angle: 178 deg
HDMI Interface
Surround MAX (15W x 2)

P 149,999

32LC2R
XD Engine, 3D Comb-filter
1,600:1 Contrast Ratio
Quick Response time: 8ms
Peak brightness: 500cd/m2
Wide Viewing Angle: 178 deg
HDMI Interface
Surround MAX (10W x 2)

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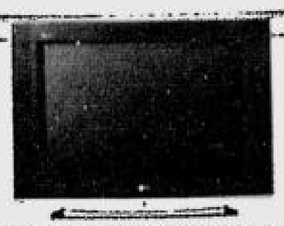

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37" LCD TV
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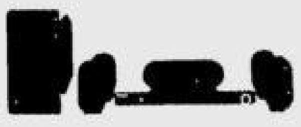
Add P 5000 for a Home Theater HT-X20



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SAMSUNG
P 109,900
LA40S81B
40" LCD TV
7000:1 Contrast Ratio
SRS TRUSurround XT
Add P5000 for a Home Theater

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32PF7321
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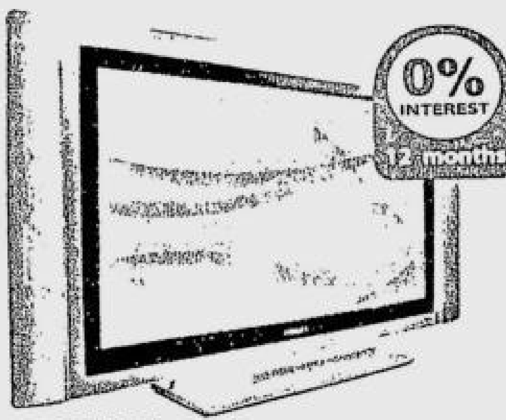
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37PF7321
37" LCD TV
P5,000 Product Discount
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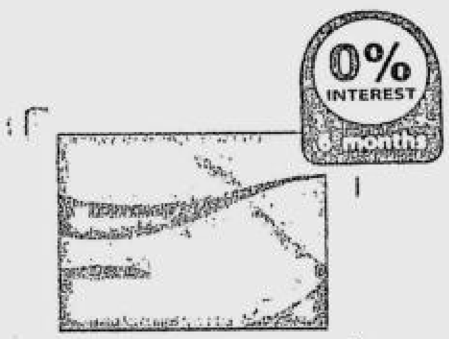
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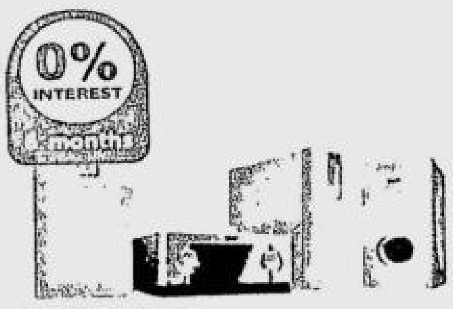
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MC-D129
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Plays DVD, (S) VCD, MP3-CD, WMA-CD, CD(RW) and Picture CD
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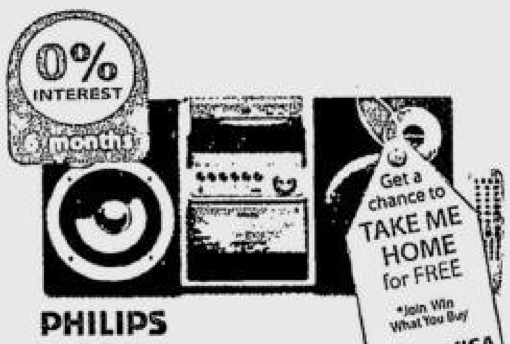
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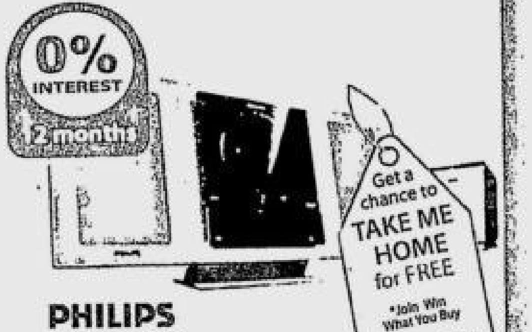
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MC-D228
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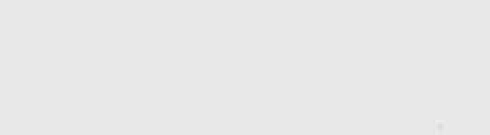
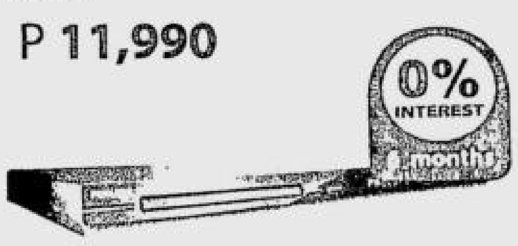


PHILIPS
DVP-5166K
Plays DVD, DIVX, VCD, MP3-CD, WMA-CD, CD(RW) and with USB, kARAOKE fUNCTION
P 3,190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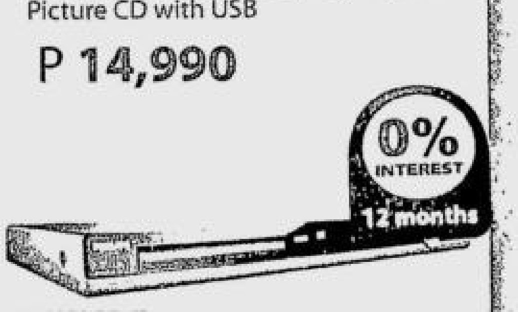
6 months

PHILIPS
DVP-5988K
Plays DVD, DIVX Ultra, DVD- R/RW, W/ USB, HDMI, W/ VIDEO UP SCALING, UP TO 1080 P.
P 5,990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DVP-3455H
PLAYS CD,(S) VCD, DVD, DVD + R/RW,DVD - R/RW, PLAYS MP3, WMA, JPEG, DIV X 3.11/ 4-X 5: X16, W/ USB
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6 CF
Semi Auto

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7 CF
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WR-2405C SS
9 CF
Semi Auto

P 14,600

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KSD320MN
10 CF
Manual

P 16,599

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Stylishly designed with a **highly efficient** compressor, Sanyo no frost refs shave up to **25% off your electric bill.**

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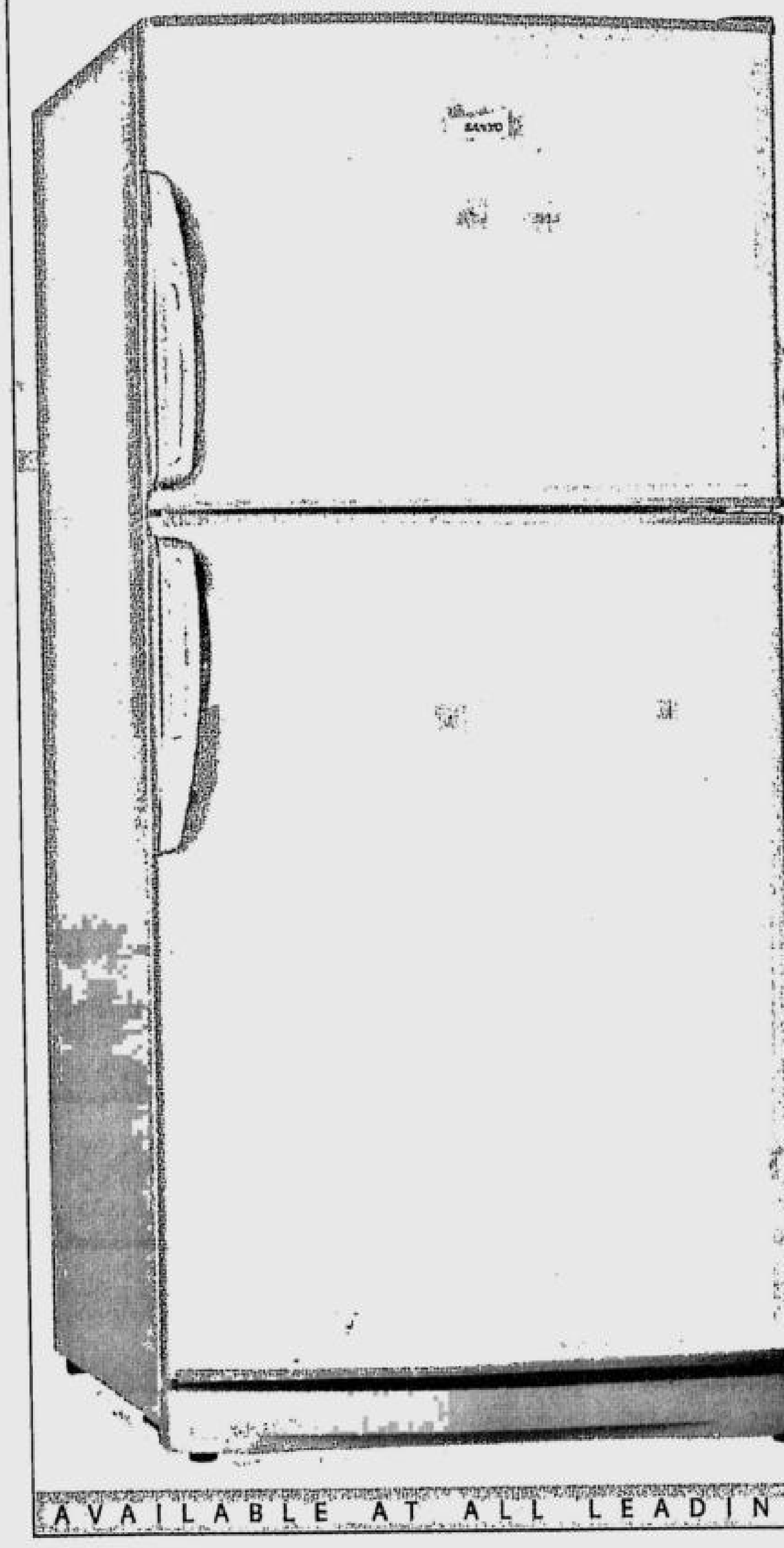
Upgrade now. You deserve it.



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Extreme Cool | Protection (Nano Ferrite Filter) | Functional | Durability

SR-F78M(SS)
NO-FROST
2-door refrigerator
18.0 cu. ft.

Features:

High Efficiency Motor Compressor
Twin Fan Motor (DC/AC)
Electronic Control
Wide Multi Air Flow and Side Air Flow System
UV-LED Platinum Beam Deodorizer
Nano Ferrite System
Vitamin C Fresh Filter
Jumbo Crisper & Moisture control
Tempered Glass Shelves
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(Also available in 15.0, 12.0, 10.0 cu. ft. models.)

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No Frost

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CONDURA

CTD300MN
9 CF
Manual Defrost

P 16,595

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SHARP

SJ-37M
10.7 CF
No Frost

P 19,795

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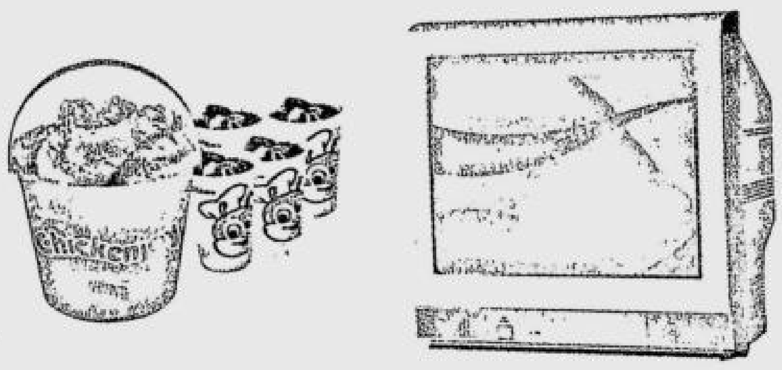
Get Freebies & Discounts!

August 2007
(Promo Period: Aug.3-Sept.3, 2007)

Cut out these coupon and get these exclusive deals from Abenson!

FREE Jollibee Bucket Meal on 21" or above TVs!



6pcs. Chikenjoy; 4 regular drinks; 4pcs. rice

Terms and Conditions apply
1. Present this coupon to avail of promo.
2. Applicable on Cash & Card Purchases only.
3. Strictly 1 coupon per transaction.
4. Cannot be used in conjunction with other promotions.
5. Coupon is non-convertible to cash and non-changeable to other products.

Promo Period: August 3 - September 3, 2007
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2121 Series of 2007

FREE Jollibee Bucket Meal on selected components!

6pcs. Chikenjoy; 4 regular drinks; 4pcs. rice

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3. Strictly 1 coupon per transaction.
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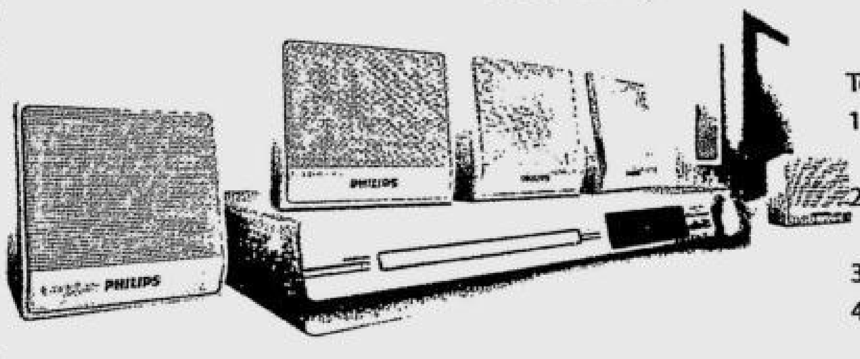
LESS P1,000 on Philips HTS-3000!



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Promo Period: August 3 - September 3, 2007
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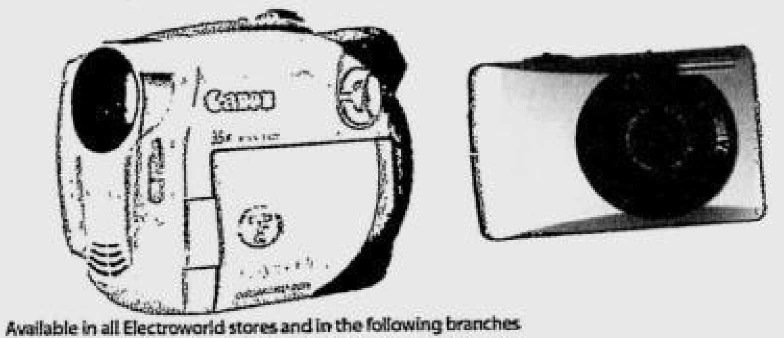
FREE One Dozen Krispy Kreme Doughnuts

when you buy any digital or video camera!



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1. Present this coupon to avail of promo.
2. Applicable on Cash & Card Purchases only.
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4. Cannot be used in conjunction with other promotions.
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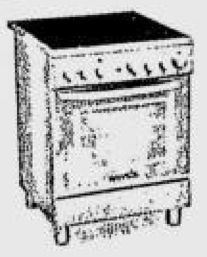
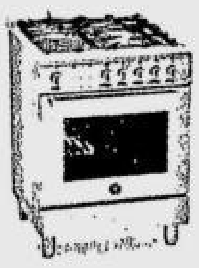
Cook in Style

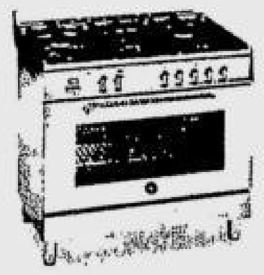
LINEA DIAMANTE by laGERMANIA



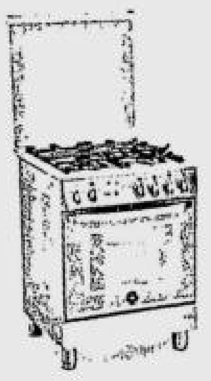
D60E 60X
WORKTOP: 1 large, 1 medium, 2 small electric ceramic cooktops
OVEN: Electric multifunction 9 settings
OVEN CAPACITY:
STAINLESS STEEL BODY



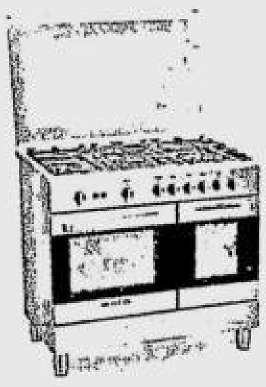
V64C 21X
WORKTOP: 3 gas, 1 triple ring burner
OVEN CAPACITY:
OVEN: Gas oven with thermostat and electric grill
STAINLESS STEEL BODY



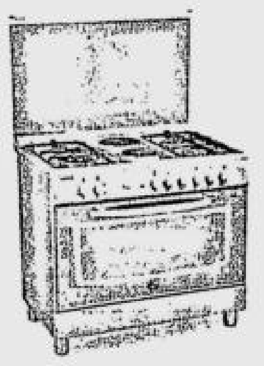
V95C 71X
WORKTOP: 4 gas, 1 triple ring burner
OVEN: Gas oven with thermostat and electric grill, fan assited
OVEN CAPACITY:
STAINLESS STEEL BODY



H64C 71X
WORKTOP: 3 gas, 1 triple ring burner
OVEN: Gas oven with electric grill / fan assisted
OVEN CAPACITY:
STAINLESS STEEL BODY



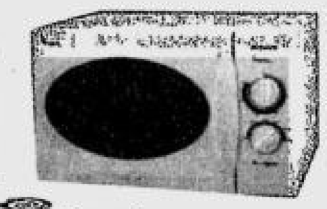
ND5C 71X
WORKTOP: 4 gas, 1 triple ring burner
OVEN: 1 60X60, 1 30X30
OVEN CAPACITY:
STAINLESS STEEL BODY



D982 21X
WORKTOP: 3 gas, 1 triple ring burner, 2 electric hotplates
OVEN: Electric multifunction 9 settings
OVEN CAPACITY:
STAINLESS STEEL BODY

Available at: ABENSON Appliance Center

• Abenson Rosario Cavite • Abenson Greenhills • Abenson Circle C • Abenson Cubao • Abenson Ever Gotesco Commonwealth • Abenson Fairview • Abenson Farmers Plaza • Abenson Libis • Abenson Quezon City • Abenson SM City North Edsa • Abenson Robinsons Galleria • Abenson Angeles • Abenson Bay City • Abenson Pavilion • Abenson Nueva Ecija • Abenson Sta Lucia • Abenson Calamba • Abenson Araneta Square • Abenson Ever Gotesco • Abenson Carmona • Abenson Dasmarinas • Abenson General Trias • Abenson Lotus • Abenson Robinsons Place Imus • Abenson Las Pinas • Abenson Lipa • Abenson Lucena • Abenson Dau • Abenson Avant Greenbelt • Abenson Malabon • Abenson Quad • Abenson Alabang • Abenson Filinvest • Abenson Metropolis • Abenson Pearl Plaza • Abenson Pasay • Abenson Ever Gotesco • Abenson Plandel



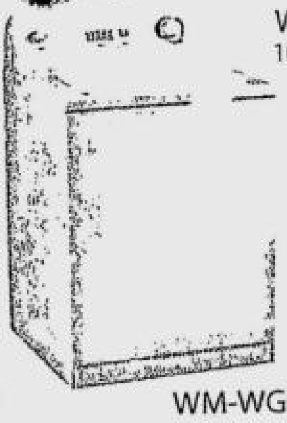
0% INTEREST 6 months

Whirlpool XT-20MS
.7 CF
P 3,698

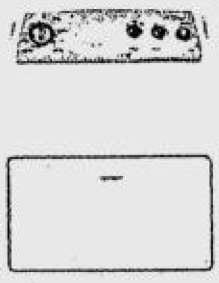
0% INTEREST 6 months

Whirlpool XT-20ES
.7 CF
Electronic
P 4,598

SUPER BUNDLE



WM-4PGSC9455
10.5 KG
P 31,998



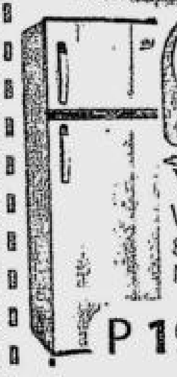
WM-WGD5700S
11 KG
DRYER
P 30,398

Package Price P 60,398

0% INTEREST 6 months

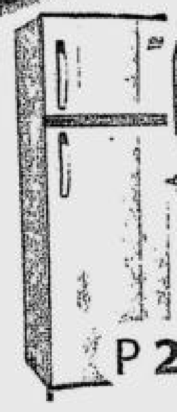
Whirlpool XWT-608 6 KG TT
P 7,298

Whirlpool XWT-858 8.5 KG TT
P 8,998



0% INTEREST 6 months

Whirlpool WSG-85
8 CF
No Frost
P 19,998



0% INTEREST 6 months

Whirlpool WSG-95
9.5 CF
No Frost
P 21,648

0% INTEREST 6 months

Whirlpool WSG-115
11 CF
No Frost
P 22,698

Whirlpool ABENSON

ABENSON ...many stores serve you!

BATANGAS
Bay City Mall (043) 723-6730 / 0834; TF: 520-6164

BOHOL
Island City Mall (038) 501-8208; TF: (038) 411-6387

CAVITE
Emperor Mall Rosario (046) 438-0452 / 57; TF: 529-8803
Fiesta World Mall Lipa (043) 757-3142; TF: 644-6815
Lotus Mall Imus (046) 515-6740 / 51; TF: 870-0[illegible]
Robinsons Place Imus (046) 471-8020 / 33; TF: 529-8623
Waltermart Carmona (046) 430-2702 / 03; TF: 520-8083
Waltermart Dasmarinas (046) 416-2104 / 07; TF: 529-8102
Waltermart General Trias (046) 419-1148 / 1137; TF: 880-0503

BULACAN
Waltermart Plaridel (044) 795-3271 to 73; TF: 883-0546

CABANATUAN
NE Pacific Mall (044) 940-1481 / 82; TF: 940-1480

CUBAO
New Farmer's Plaza 911-1103 / 1454; TF: 911-1071
Rustans 911-2375 / 2494 / 2396; TF: 911-2313

GAPAN
Waltermart Gapan (044) 486-7647 / 48; TF: 711-2811

KALOOKAN
Ever Grand Central 363-3346 / 5348 / 5246; TF: 363-3202

LAGUNA
Ayala Pavilion Mall Binan (049) 411-4510 / 11; TF: 520-8209
Ultimart San Pablo (049) 562-7034 / 36; TF: 880-4102
Waltermart Calamba (049) 545-7034 / 35; TF: 520-8017
Waltermart Sta. Rosa (049) 534-4909 / 18; TF: 520-8190

LEGASPI
LCC Mall (052) 480-7943; TF: 429-1520
Pacific Mall (052) 480-6268 / 820-4068; TF: 438-1521

LUCENA
Pacific Mall (042) 373-0443; TF: 743-7290

MAKATI
Greenbelt 4 759-2315 to 20; TF: 759-2320
Glorietta 1 813-7745 / 9425; 815-3691; 818-5453; 819-5883;
TF: 812-6310; 894-5951
Waltermart Makati 812-2882 / 1352 / 1353 / 1584;
TF: 812-1544

MALABON
Malabon Citisquare 287-0478 / 0344 / 9932; TF: 287-0827

MANDALUYONG
Shangri-La 633-0168 / 8161 loc. 122; TF: 633-9612

MANILA
Harrison Plaza 521-6530 / 63 / 68 / 69 / 94; TF: 521-8596
Puregold Tayuman 252-6756 / 87 / 68; TF: 252-5878
Robinsons Ermita 536-7914, 400-0249; 536-8029

MARIKINA
Riverbanks Mall 941-3211 / 5003 / 6180 / 6191; 941-4290

MUNTINLUPA
Alabang 850-6850 / 6014 / 9236; TF: 807-1420
Filinvest Festival Mall 850-3775; 843-2540 / 2551; TF: 850-3779
Metropolis 809-8174 / 8021; TF: 809-8172

NAGA
LCC Malls 350-8063; (054) 473-6003; 811-3340;
TF: (054) 811-8023

ORTIGAS
Robinsons Galleria 632-0101 to 05; 632-0117; TF: 632-9104
Shangri-La 636-8017 to 18 / 49 / 60; TF: 636-6023
St. Francis Square 633-1383 to 64; 636-7250; TF: 636-7253

PAMPANGA
Nepo Mall Angeles (045) 888-0036; TF: 248-6340
Puregold Dau (045) 892-4285; 624-0208; TF: 248-6341

PARAÑAQUE
Jaka Plaza 829-2666 / 87 / 9025; TF: 829-2658
Pearl Plaza 851-8401 / 03; TF: 851-8403

PASAY
Metropoint Mall 833-7565 / 9196; TF: 833-7829

PASIG
Puregold Buting 641-4452; TF: 642-1867
Ever Gotesco Pasig 658-6643 / 44 / 48; 658-6648

QUEZON CITY
Trinoma 901-3530 to 52; TF: 901-9583
Circle C Congressional 927-0390 / 9520 / 9581;
TF: 927-9548
Eastwood Libis 687-1813 / 1698 / 2373; TF: 687-1776
Ever Gotesco Commonwealth 951-4375 / 6991;
TF: 951-4537
Fairview Center Mall 939-7906; TF: 937-6011
Puregold Commonwealth 932-2932 / 3508; TF: 932-3148
Puregold E. Rodriguez 784-1234 / 1313; TF: 784-1222
SM City North Edsa 920-9151 to 53; 927-9606 / 18;
929-6611; TF: 929-6829
Waltermart E. Rodriguez 732-7263; 724-2501 / 2570

RIZAL
Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall Phase 1 645-0402 / 0404 / 8311; TF: 645-4590
Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall Phase 2 681-6301 to 05; TF: 681-6306

SAN JUAN
Greenhills 721-1710 / 0590; 723-1264 / 4187 / 1920; TF: 722-1261

TAGUIG
Market Market 886-6620 / 6431 / 6462;
TF: (045) 985-1278

TARLAC
Plaza Luisita (045) 985-1215; TF: (045) 985-1278

VALENZUELA
Puregold Valenzuela 277-6536 / 38 / 39;
TF: 277-6850